


A framework for anti-racist information literacy instruction: exemplar, process, and structure



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pronouns: she, her

Subject Specialties

Medical Laboratory Science, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Public Health,
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pronouns: she, her

Subject Specialties

Art & Design, English, Languages & Literatures, Linguistics, Music, Philosophy & Religion
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UND Land Acknowledgement

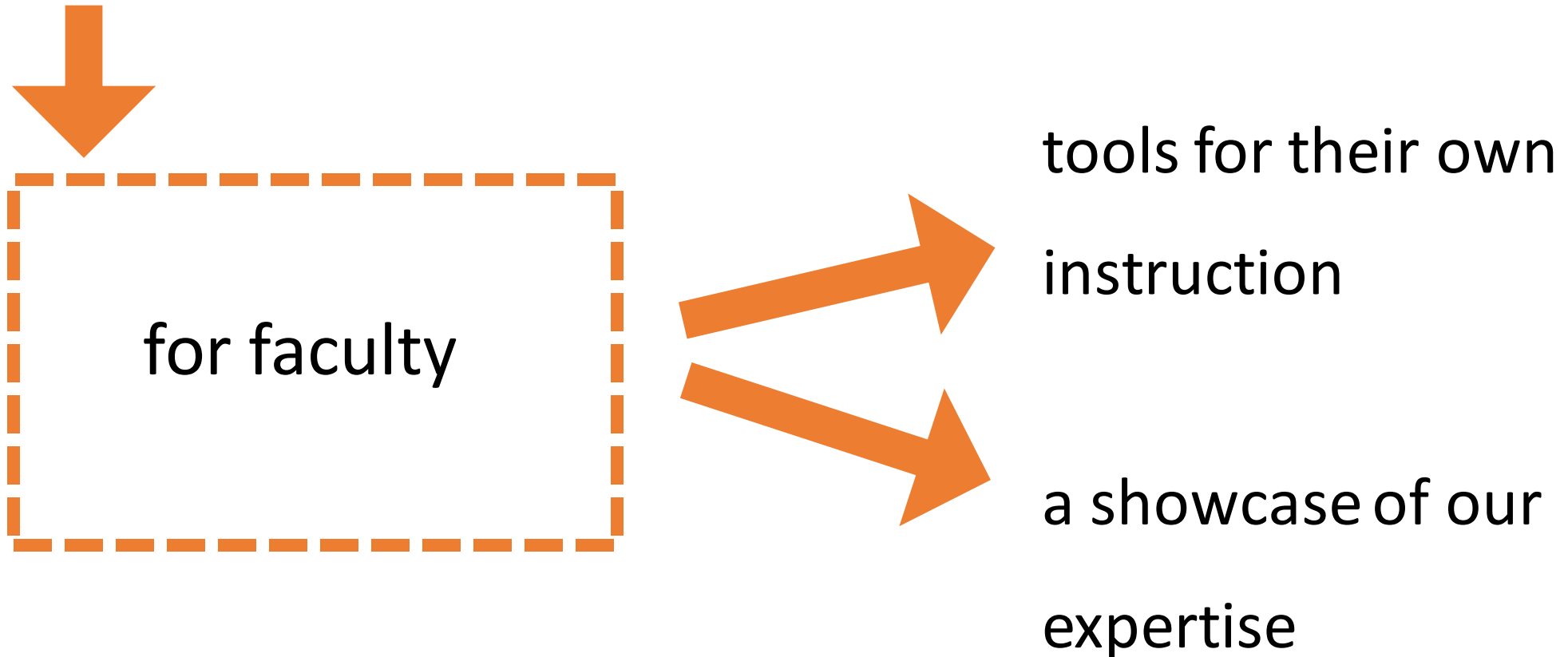
Today, the University of North Dakota rests on the ancestral lands of the Pembina and Red Lake Bands of Ojibwe and the Dakota Oyate - presently existing as composite parts of the Red Lake, Turtle Mountain, White Earth Bands, and the Dakota Tribes of Minnesota and North Dakota. We acknowledge the people who resided here for generations and recognize that the spirit of the Ojibwe and Oyate people permeates this land. As a university community, we will continue to build upon our relations with the First Nations of the State of North Dakota - the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Nation, Spirit Lake Nation, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.

Background

- This presentation is based on another:
 - *“Locating and navigating research: The words used to search, determine what you find...”*
 - part of a spring 2021 UND Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Seminar presented by Teaching Transformation and Development Academy (TTaDA)
 - originally developed and taught by ourselves and:
 - Montanna Barnett, MLS, Research & Education Librarian, SMHS Library Resources
 - Heather Rogers, MIST
 - Laura Egan, MA, MBA, MLIS, Head of Collections Strategies, Chester Fritz Library

Background

- Framing of original presentation



Session Overview

- Anti-racist library instruction through 3 lenses:
 1. Structure of research
 2. Process of research
 3. Exemplar of research
- Conclusion: a shared resource!

question:

While running an instruction session, have you ever felt uncomfortable with:

- the way a conversation was going?
- what you see on a results screen?

Structure

- database infrastructure
 - examples: taxonomies, controlled vocabularies, finding aids, etc.

```
graph TD; A[All MeSH Categories] --> B[Persons Category]; B --> C[Persons]; C --> D[Population Groups]; D --> E[Continental Population Groups]; E --> F[American Native Continental Ancestry Group]; F --> G[Indians, North American]; G --> H[American Natives];
```

[All MeSH Categories](#)
[Persons Category](#)
[Persons](#)
[Population Groups](#)
[Continental Population Groups](#)
[American Native Continental Ancestry Group](#)
[Indians, North American](#)
American Natives

Structure: *databases*

- What journals are not indexed?



Structure: *databases*

- What journals are not indexed? Non-English language

% of publications in English in WOS indices 2005-2016*

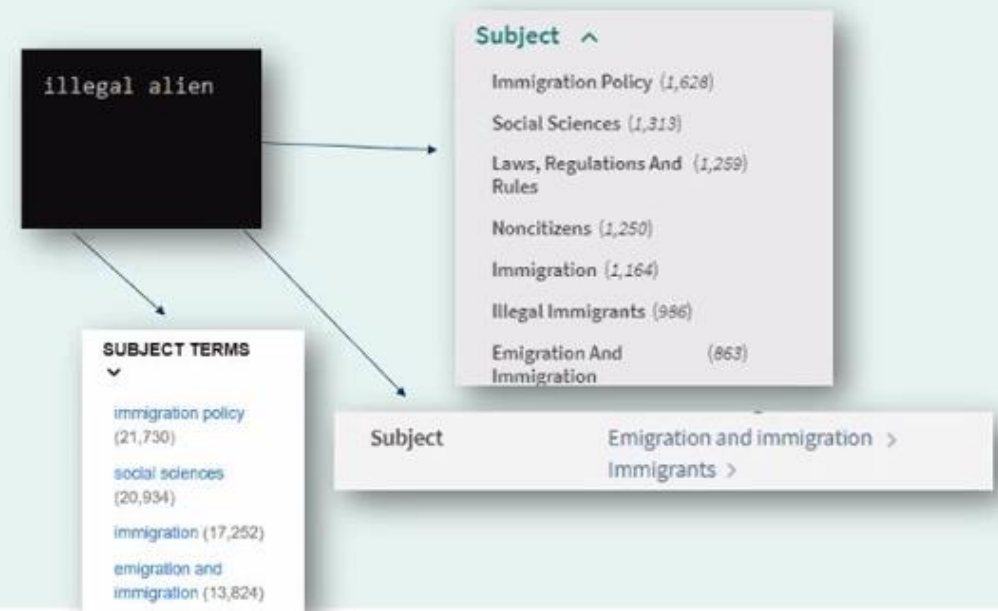
- sciences index: 96.94%
- social sciences index: 94.95%
- arts and humanities: 73.26%

*Weishu Liu, 2016, "The changing role of non-English papers in scholarly communication: Evidence from Web of Science's three journal citation indexes". <https://doi.org/10.1002/leap.1089>

Structure: *content management systems*

- Primo hiding problematic subject headings

- DEI Discovery Functionality (phase 1)
 - Library defined term list
 - Hide terms from subjects in facet & record



Structure: algorithms in databases

Patron: I need help researching welfare abuse in small communities. When I search for welfare abuse in small communities in Academic Search Ultimate, it always brings up child abuse cases and barely anything on the topic I'm looking for.

Searching: **Academic Search Ultimate**

welfare abu

welfare abuse

welfare or government assistance or public assista	Select a Field (optional) ▾	Search	
AND ▾	community or neighborhood or local	Select a Field (optional) ▾	Clear ?
AND ▾	abuse or neglect or maltreatment or mistrea	Select a Field (optional) ▾	+ -

[Basic Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Search History](#) ▶

sults | Search Results: 1 - 10 of 2,229

Why the Vendor Response?

Bias in Resource Discovery: Our previous Library Search software exhibited troubling issues in some search results. Research by our librarians uncovered patterns of bias in some results that amplified systemic racial, gender, sexual orientation, and religious biases. We attempted to work with ProQuest, the company that created the software, to address these issues but were not satisfied with their response. For more information on these issues, see [Algorithmic Bias in Library Discovery](#), or [Masked by Trust: Bias in Library Discovery](#) by Matthew Reidsma, Web Services Librarian.


Cost: This migration allows us to cancel the software we use to manage our online collections. In addition, the [new software is open source](#), with libraries around the world (including GVSU) contributing to creating, maintaining, and improving the software. Because the source of the software is open, there is no software licensing cost for us to pay. By moving to a comprehensive open source solution, we can redirect the significant cost savings into our collections and other services.

Structure: *controlled vocabularies*

Library of Congress Subject Headings

- are considered "the authority" for catalogs
- slow to change
- congressional involvement can occur

Library of Congress Accepts University of Oklahoma Libraries' Proposal to Change Subject Heading to 'Tulsa Race Massacre'

Filed by [Gary Price](#) on  March 23, 2021

From the [University of Oklahoma](#):

by [Lisa Peet](#)

Jun 13, 2016 | Filed in [News](#)




Thanks to the joint efforts of a student group and university librarians at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, with a push from the American Library Association (ALA), the Library of Congress (LC) announced on March 22 that it would remove the term "Illegal alien" from the LC Subject Heading (LCSH) system, replacing it with "Noncitizen" and, to describe the act of residing without authorization, "Unauthorized immigration."

Update: On June 10 the House voted 237–170 to order LC to continue using the term "illegal alien," in order to duplicate the language of federal laws written by Congress.

Structure: *library policies*

- Collection-development


DISSERTATION



A comparative content analysis of alcoholism treatment programs with a focus on a Native treatment alternative ; A comparative content analysis of alcoholism treatment programs with a focus on a Native treatment alternative
Eshkibok, Michael James, 1947-, author.; Fiordo, Richard, 1945-, degree

Share, Email, Print icons

BOOK



Eshkibok's Native 12 Steps ; Eshkibok's Native 12 Steps
Eshkibok, Michael James, 1947- author.
2015

Available at UND Chester Fritz Library CFL Floor 3 Book Stacks (E98.L7 E87 2015) >

Share, Email icons

question:

What do you do when you find bias inherent in the structure of your catalog or collection?

Process: *research*

- how people go about doing research in databases or collections,
- and communicating their findings

Process: *search terms and minoritized groups*


How people might describe themselves	How can non-community members might describe them	How authorities describe them	
		PubMed	U.S. Census
Lakota	Sioux		
	American Indian	"Indians, North American"[Mesh]	"American Indian or Alaska Native"
	Native American	"American Native Continental Ancestry Group"[Mesh]	

Process: *search terms and minoritized groups*

PubMed.gov

"Indians, North American"[Mesh]


[Advanced](#) [Create alert](#) [Create RSS](#)

MY NCBI FILTERS  **17,637 results**

PubMed.gov

"American Native Continental Ancestry Group"[Mesh]

[Advanced](#) [Create alert](#) [Create RSS](#)

MY NCBI FILTERS  **21,931 results**

PubMed.gov

"american indian"


[Advanced](#) [Create alert](#) [Create RSS](#)

MY NCBI FILTERS  **5,527 results**

PubMed.gov

Lakota

[Advanced](#) [Create alert](#) [Create RSS](#)

MY NCBI FILTERS  **214 results**

Process: *search terms and minoritized groups*

the “ideal” search may require a highly sophisticated process

PubMed.gov

Search

Advanced Create alert Create RSS User Guide

Save Email Send to Sorted by: Best match Display options

MY NCBI FILTERS 607 results

RESULTS BY YEAR

Addressing palliative and end-of-life care needs with Native American elders.
1 Isaacson MJ.
Cite Int J Palliat Nurs. 2018 Apr 2;24(4):160-168. doi: 10.12968/ijpn.2018.24.4.160.
PMID: 29703114
Share Health professionals providing services to Native American communities must embrace cultural

((("American Native Continental Ancestry Group"[Mesh]) OR ("Indians, North American"[Mesh]))

AND

(lakota OR dakota OR "red lake" OR "turtle mountain" OR "white earth")

Process: search terms and minoritized groups

What to tell patrons:

1. Learn what terms are used in your field
 - By communities
 - By non-community members
 - By authorities
2. Learn about how the structure of your database affects results
3. Use structured search syntax to search both community and non-community terms



image: BlackIllustrations.com

Exemplar

- The way a topic is conceptualized
- What topics are the focus for research
- Who is the researcher and who is the subject

Assumptions about problems and solutions are the most obvious sites of bias.

Exemplar: *topic formulation*

- Family reunification success in the foster system

Exemplar: *topic formulation*

What assumptions are we making?

- Family reunification is always positive and the only desirable outcome
- Family reunification only affects certain groups

Free speech in the Classroom!?

- Absolutism?
- Context Matters?

question:

How do you negotiate with your patrons in talking about choice of language?

HB1503

HOUSE BILL 1503

HB 1503 states that "...at a minimum, no faculty member will face adverse employment action for classroom speech, unless the speech is not reasonably germane to the subject matter of the class..."

HB 1503 will be heard in Senate Education committee next week Monday, March 22nd at 2:30.

Submit testimony opposing HB 1503 by 1:30pm 3/22

Who is behind model legislation like this and last year's SB 2320? A national organization called the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education. NDSU's Challey Institute hosted a conversation with FIRE's executive director last week as part of their IDEAS Research Workshop. See a previous conversation with the CEO of the Institute for Humane Studies on campus free speech policies.

Source: NDU Legislative Forum Newsletter March 19, 2021

Our take-home:

Help us share resources and build change with this google doc of resources:

bit.ly/AntiRacistLibResources



image: BlackIllustrations.com

Thank you!

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