Freshman Seminar
Face-to-Face Library Instruction Options

To complement the online inquiry modules and the activities and assignments you’ve planned for your students, the library is offering three options for instruction sessions with a librarian. The sessions last approximately 25 minutes, and are designed to reinforce the concepts from the modules in an active, workshop setting. With that connection in mind, the session you choose should be scheduled at a time when students have completed the related module and are working with that stage of the inquiry process.

1. Exploring

In this session, the instruction librarian will reinforce ideas from the first online module. This instruction option is most appropriate early in the semester when students are beginning to think about the topics they want to explore.

The session will focus on the following concepts related to the beginning stages of inquiry:

- Browsing for inquiry topics
- Background reading to better understand a topic
- Information source types

2. Connecting

In this session, the instruction librarian will focus on concepts from the second online module. This instruction option will be most helpful for students who have generated topic ideas and started to conduct background reading. The session will help students start to connect what they already know about a topic to what they need to find out.

The session will focus on the following concepts related to this stage of inquiry:

- Developing keywords to guide information searching
- Constructing searches to find relevant information about topics
- Revising search strategies

3. Understanding

In this session, the librarian will cover topics from the third online module. This option will be most relevant near the end of the research process, as students are working on putting together the information they’ve found into
their own discussion. Students should bring some of the sources they want to use to the session. This session can also include the mechanics and ethics of attributing sources.

The session will focus on the following concepts related to this stage of inquiry:

- Synthesizing information sources
- Choosing compelling information from sources to use
- Ethical use of information