CLRC Writing Skills Workshop: Incorporating MLA and APA Citation

Presenters:
Nicole Biergiel & Lisa Danhi, Writing Center Coordinators
M’Liss Garza, Reference and Instruction Librarian
Student Learning Outcomes

After attending this workshop, students should be able to do the following:

- Incorporate in-text citations accurately into an academic paper.
- Use the CARS checklist to evaluate print and electronic sources for accuracy, credibility and relevancy.
- Locate and follow MLA or APA guidelines as required.
Brainstorm current questions

- What do you know about MLA and APA citation?
- What questions do you have about the research process? About citation?
- What research assignments do you have this semester? What do you find most challenging when approaching a research assignment?
What are “MLA” and “APA” guidelines and when do I have to use them?

- MLA: Modern Language Association
  - Use in humanities courses, such as English, philosophy, and fine arts.
- APA: American Psychological Association
  - Use in social science courses, such as psychology, sociology, and education.
- Introduce changes in both guidelines this year.
The Research Process

- **Writing and Research Process Timeline:**
  - Make a research plan along with your writing plan.
  - Work with a reference librarian early on.

- **Why, When, and How to Cite Sources:**
  - Review rationale and suggestions on preparing citations early in the research process.
  - Review incorporating citations into essay text.
Creating In-text Citations

- Examine an example of in-text citation.
- Notice the following:
  - Options of paraphrasing, direct quote, or partial quote.
  - Options of what pieces of the publication data to include in the sentence or the parentheses.
  - Merging of the research data and the essay author’s words as a grammatically correct sentence.
Activity

Work in groups or individually to complete the following:

- Decide whether you want to practice MLA or APA in-text citations.
- Re-write the in-text examples to practice forming merged sentences.
- Review the Works Cited or References page as well as the other in-text examples for ideas.
Evaluating Sources

- What makes a resource
  - Reliable?
    - Relevant?
    - Authoritative?

- Use the CARS Checklist for Evaluating Sources to determine whether your sources are credible.
How do I start?

- What resources are available to me in the Luria Library?
  - EBSCOhost and the databases
  - Print and electronic resources
- What does a reference librarian do?
- When should I meet with a reference librarian?
Thank you

Dr. Jerry Pike, CLRC Director pike@sbcc.edu
Nina Mahaffey, CLRC Supervisor mahaffey@sbcc.edu
Lisa Danhi, WCenter Coordinator danhi@sbcc.edu
Nicole Biergiel, WCenter Coordinator biergiel@sbcc.edu
M’Liss Garza, Reference & Instruction Librarian garza@sbcc.edu