CREATING LIBRARY WORKSHOPS THAT WORK

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OUTLINE

• Research Bootcamp: Origin Story
• Topics taught
• Logistics
• Promotion
• Gathering feedback
• Student response
• Why we think it worked
Five libraries: 4 in Halifax, 1 in Truro
Satellite Medicine campus in Saint John, NB
WHAT IS RESEARCH BOOTCAMP?

2015 –

Learn effective and efficient information management techniques and literature search skills to support all your research endeavors.

TOPICS COVERED

library basics • literature reviews • citation tools • writing abstracts & grant proposals • copyright, open access & academic publishing • legal resources • engineering resources • PubMed and other health sciences databases • humanities resources • Canadian data and stats • grey literature • research data management • Excel • data visualization • conference posters

REGISTER BY:
Friday, May 5
dallibrariesresearchbootcamp.eventbrite.com

MORE INFORMATION:
“OPTIONAL” LIBRARY INSTRUCTION SESSION
How we got here

Image: http://creative-lego.blogspot.ca/2012/01/wallpaper-lego-evolution-1280x1024.html
How we got here

• Shout-out to our colleagues at St. Francis Xavier University!
• Initial meeting of interested Dal librarians (2015)
• Decision to target research assistants & teaching assistants in the summer
• What are “research essentials”? 

Image: http://creative-lego.blogspot.ca/2012/01/wallpaper-lego-evolution-1280x1024.html
Core skills • Subject searching
• Information management skills
## WHAT WE TEACH (2017 OFFERINGS)

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★ Presented by Writing Centre staff
# MUFFIN DISCLAIMER

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LOGISTICS

• When? May – June
  • Core skills sessions held in first week
  • Other sessions offered sporadically

• Where? non-library teaching spaces
  • Videoconference for distributed classes (with facilitators on site) – starting 2016
  • Some sessions held entirely online – BB Collaborate
MORE LOGISTICS

- Sign-in sheets (2017)
- Approach: activities, discussion, applied skills
RESEARCH BOOTCAMP
for Research & Teaching Assistants and Graduate Students
May 15–June 13

Learn effective and efficient information management techniques and literature search skills to support all your research endeavors.

TOPICS COVERED
library basics ◆ literature reviews ◆ citation tools ◆ writing abstracts & grant proposals ◆ copyright, open access & academic publishing ◆ legal resources ◆ engineering resources ◆ PubMed and other health sciences databases ◆ humanities resources ◆ Canadian data and stats ◆ grey literature ◆ research data management ◆ Excel ◆ data visualization ◆ conference posters

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dal.ca/libguides.com/ResearchBootcamp

MARKETING TO FACULTY
Liaison librarians ● Posters ●
Departmental admins ● Social media ●
Centre for Learning & Teaching ● LibGuide
For the 4th year, the Dalhousie Libraries is offering Research Bootcamp, a suite of sessions designed for teaching and research assistants and graduate students. If you know of someone who could benefit from developing effective and efficient information management techniques and literature search skills to support research endeavors, please share this information with them.

Sessions will run from **May 14–June 6** and will cover: library basics; literature reviews (searching and writing); citation tools; writing abstracts & grant proposals; copyright, open access & predatory publishers; legal resources; business and competitive intelligence resources, PubMed and other health sciences databases; humanities resources; Canadian data and stats; grey literature; research data management; Excel; data visualization; conference posters. Complete session list and descriptions are available at [http://dal.ca.libguides.com/ResearchBootcamp/2018/Schedule](http://dal.ca.libguides.com/ResearchBootcamp/2018/Schedule)

Faculty can recommend the workshops to their RAs/TAs or register on their behalf. Participants can attend most sessions in-person in Halifax (various Halifax Campus locations) or via video conferencing at the Agricultural Campus or DMNB.

Event website, including schedule, session descriptions, FAQs [http://dal.ca.libguides.com/ResearchBootcamp](http://dal.ca.libguides.com/ResearchBootcamp)

Register by **May 7** at [https://dallibrariesresearchbootcamp2018.eventbrite.com/](https://dallibrariesresearchbootcamp2018.eventbrite.com/)
“HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT RESEARCH BOOTCAMP?”

“Other” includes email in general, administrative email, Faculty of Grad Studies email, direct from a librarian.
1. How much of the material presented was NEW to you?
   - Totally new
   - Somewhat new
   - Nothing new

2. I already knew the part about...

3. List up to 3 things you learned in this session...

4. How CLEAR was the material presented to you?
   - Very clear/easy to follow
   - Somewhat clear/easy to follow
   - Unclear/not easy to follow

5. How would you describe the PACE of this session?
   - Just right
   - Too fast
   - Too slow

6. How would you describe the AMOUNT of information presented in this session?
   - Just right
   - Too much
   - Too little

7. Do you have any other comments or suggestions for improvement?

8. After this session, I feel better prepared to conduct research (circle appropriate).
   - Strongly Agree
   - Agree
   - Neither Agree nor Disagree
   - Disagree
   - Strongly Disagree

9. Have you attended/are you attending any other Research Bootcamp sessions?
   - Yes
   - No

10. Have you ever attended a library instruction session at Dalhousie besides this Bootcamp series?
    - Yes
    - No

11. Your status (circle all appropriate):
    - Graduate R.A.
    - Graduate T.A.
    - Graduate Student
    - Undergraduate R.A.
    - Undergraduate T.A.
    - Faculty
    - Other:
STUDENT UPTAKE
- Core Skills 3 = Writing Abstracts/Grants; The “Rights Stuff
- Core Skills 2 = Writing the Literature Review/RefWorks
- Core Skills 1 = Getting Started/The Literature Review Process
*no data for Core Skills 2 participation – likely between 40-50 attendees
STUDENT UPTAKE

• Attendance waned as the series went on, but students continued to show up
• Positive feedback
How much of the material presented was NEW to you?

- Totally
- Somewhat
- Nothing
- N/A
After this session, I feel better prepared to....

- Strongly disagree
- Strongly Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- N/A
- Disagree
- Agree
Have you ever attended a library instruction session at Dalhousie other than this Bootcamp series?
WHAT THEY WISH WE HAD COVERED

• More workshops on OA resources in different disciplines
• Research processes like interview techniques and research design
• Documenting literature searches
• More Excel
• Less focus on health research for examples
• How to publish a scientific article
SURVEY COMMENTS

COMPLIMENTARY
• Enjoyed the interactivity
• Good subject coverage
• Extremely well-organized!
• Timely and reliable communications

CONSTRUCTIVE
• Some sessions had content overlap
• Wanted more handouts
• Suggestion to record or live stream
• Remind participants to bring laptops
• Be more aware of the reality of participation vs. registration
WHY WE THINK IT WORKED

- Targeting RAs and TAs through faculty
- Presenting skills as directly applicable to their roles as RAs/TAs
- Developing a personal connection through reminder emails
FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

• Certification?
• Streaming or recording?
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

• Marlo MacKay, Communications Coordinator for Dalhousie Libraries
• Julie Marcoux, Data Librarian for Dalhousie Libraries, Excel Expert
• Participating Dal librarians and Writing Centre staff
• Suzanne van den Hoogen, Public Services Librarian, St. Francis Xavier University
QUESTIONS?

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