

Canvas, the Commons, and Course Design, Oh My!

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Who We Are

About SMU



Dallas Hall at Southern Methodist University



SMU LIBRARIES **Online Learning Team**

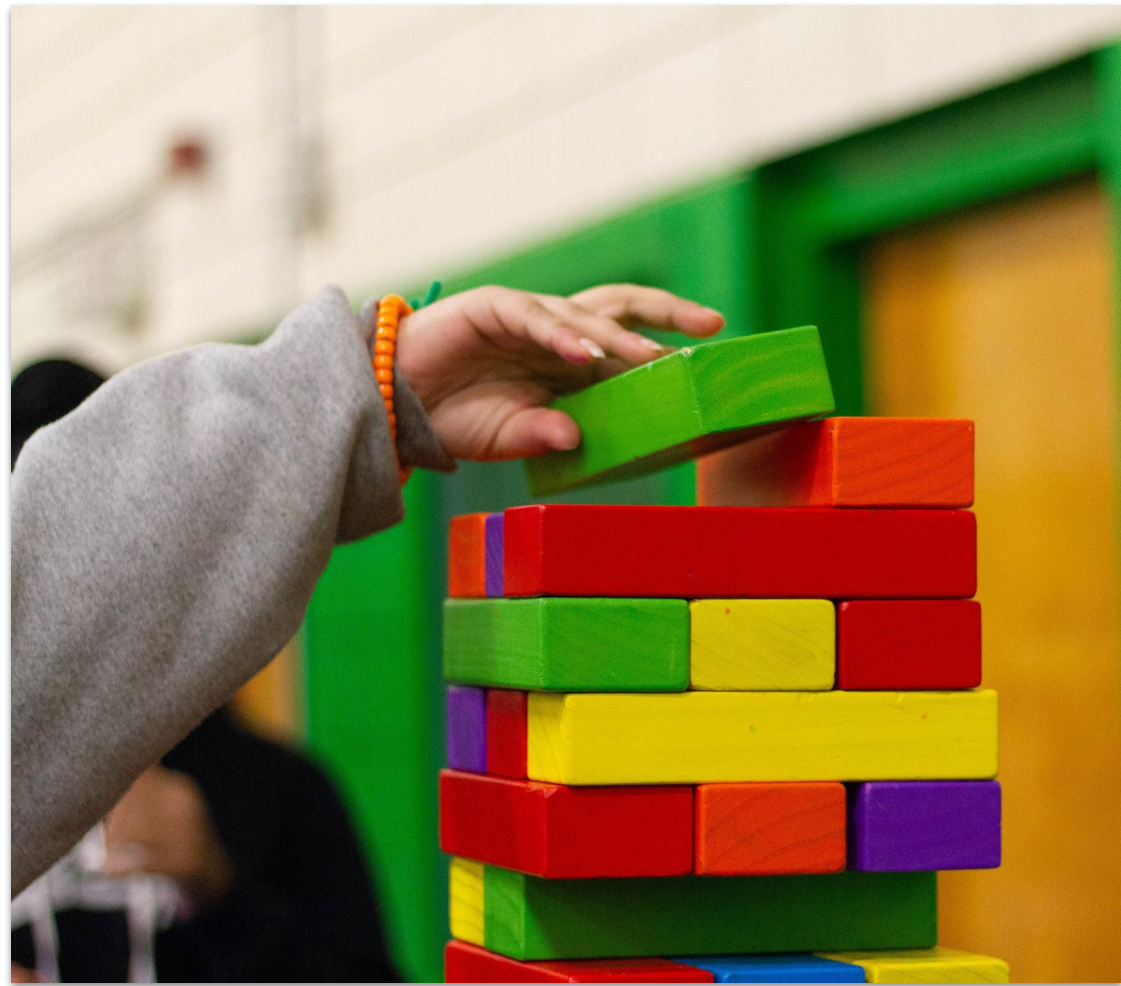


Our Motivation

Why this project



Cross-curricular content



Are you developing
similar cross-curricular
content at your
institutions?

Application

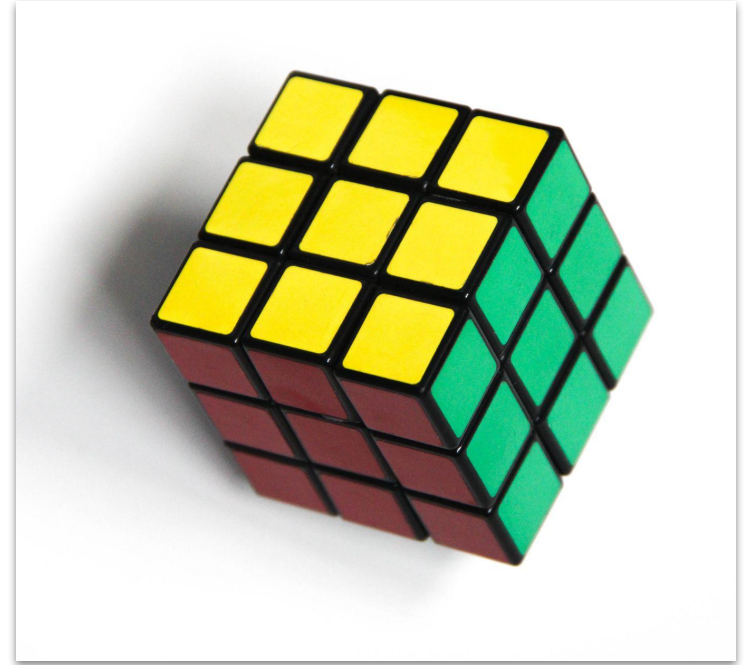
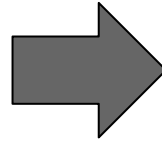
Integrating our modules into instruction

- Asynchronous learning
- Flipped classroom
- Enrichment



Workflow

Creating an instructional design culture from scratch



How have you all
approached getting
everyone on the same
page?

Design

Module structure

⋮ ▾ Searching for Information Online - In Commons	✓ + ⋮
⋮ For Faculty (Do Not Publish)	⊘ ⋮
⋮ 📄 About this Module (DO NOT PUBLISH)-2	⊘ ⋮
⋮ 1. Welcome to Searching 2 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Welcome to Searching 1 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 How To Think Like an Expert Searcher 1 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 2. Basic Concepts and Terms for Searching 11 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 What is a Search Term? 1 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Basic Strategies for Search 3 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Where Can You Search? 2 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 🎯 Basic Concepts and Terms for Searching Quiz 5 min 100 pts	✓ ⋮
⋮ 3. Searching the Internet 12 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 How Does Search Work on the Internet? 1 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 What Kinds of Searches Should be Performed on the Internet? 2 min	✓ ⋮
⋮ 📄 Internet Search Strategies and Examples 3 min	✓ ⋮

Designing for asynchronous usability

Basic Strategies for Search | 3 min

For casual searching, putting a few quick terms in a general search box (like Google or [Library Search](#)) can get satisfactory results. For more in-depth research, you want to find the best results, not just the results that happened to rise to the top. Here are some ways you might strategize your searches.

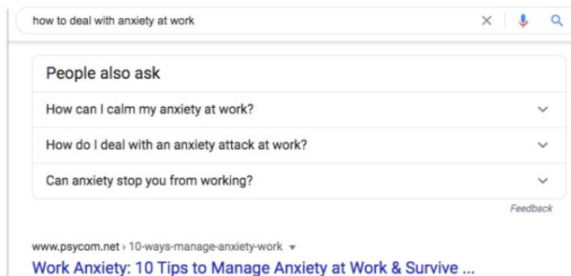
Choosing search terms

Remember, a search engine is trying to match your terms to words that appear in the text. Think of words that would appear in the kind of information you want. Don't just think of a question, think of what words would appear in the answer. For academic research, think of terminology that would be used in that discipline.

Pay attention to the terms used in any good results you get, and then use those in searching to push more relevant content to the top of your results lists. You can also do some searching in order to discover possible terms. For example, a Google search for "[anthropology glossary](#)" gives several good results. You could also look for terms in a textbook, in the [subject index](#) in a disciplinary database, or by talking to your professor.

Example

Rhiann is looking for sources that talk about anxiety at work. If she wanted information for personal reasons on workplace anxiety, she might search for "[how to deal with anxiety at work](#)". Notice that these search results are for a general audience.



Designing for asynchronous usability

What Kinds of Searches Should be Performed on the Internet?

| 2 min

In the previous section, you learned that it can be helpful to consider what search tools might best fit the information you want, so let's consider how the internet might best be used.

What kinds of searches are best done on the internet?

- Very current information like breaking news or current statistics
- Information that would appear only on a website like company websites, governmental agencies, associations, advocacy groups, think tanks, etc.
- Very general information on a topic
- Everyday information needs like consumer product reviews, recipes, etc.
- Whenever you don't know where else to search

What other searches may work on the internet?

- Searches to explore a topic's terminology
- Background information for a research project
- Articles from journals and newspapers that do not require a subscription

What searches are difficult on the internet?

- Searches that require sophisticated filtering (by resource type, publication, subject terms, etc.)
- Historical materials like print books, old newspapers, and documents
- Articles that require a subscription

Lessons Learned

Our takeaways



Future Plans

Achievements & goals



What questions do you
have for us?

Thank you!

Email us at infolitonline@smu.edu