

2022

## Can Virtual Library Practicums Be Successful? A Practicum Supervisor's Experience

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### **Lighting Round Abstract:**

**Title:** Can Virtual Library Practicums Be Successful? A Practicum Supervisor's Experience.

**By:** Justin Easterday, Education and Human Sciences Librarian, USM – Gulf Coast Library, and Nyra White, USM SLIS Graduate Student, The University of Southern Mississippi

During Summer of 2022, a virtual practicum happened at the Gulf Coast Library at USM. Justin Easterday, Education, and Human Sciences Librarian and Assistant Professor, served as Nyra White, a graduate student in the USM MLIS program practicum supervisor. Justin collaborated with Nyra to focus on projects she has a professional interest in while completing tasks that a virtual librarian could complete. Relying on the experience of working remotely for 2020, Justin and Nyra planned projects that required Nyra to put her course knowledge into practice. The four major projects dealt with answering reference questions, collection development, creating an educational research guide, and presenting a live virtual workshop. Although the practicum required completing tasks, one reason this virtual practicum succeeded was by having projects designed to provide more reflective learning tasks. By providing clear goals, weekly meetings, and following set deadlines, these projects provided Nyra with valuable skills that will aid her as a starting librarian. The success of this virtual practicum first relied on the motivation from both the supervisor and the practicum student. Both needed to be able to work with flexible due dates, adjust meeting times due to different time zones, plan to work additional hours, and create projects that the student would be excited to complete.

# **Can Virtual Library Practicums Be Successful? A Practicum Supervisor's Experience**

**Justin Easterday, Education and Human Sciences Librarian, The University  
of Southern Mississippi– Gulf Coast Library**

**Nyra White, USM SLIS Graduate Student, The University of Southern  
Mississippi**



# Before Anything Discuss Projects

The University of Southern Mississippi, School of Library and Information Science  
LIS 689: Library Practicum (Virtual)

## Planned Projects

April 28, 2022:

- Create and present a library instruction presentation/workshop (15-30 minutes)
  - Topic: TBD
  - Justin will gather some audience members and create an evaluation/feedback form
- Assist with gathering Collection Development requests for the James Russel Endowment Fund
- Learn how to create a USM Research Guide (LibGuide) and take the steps to help make the guide web-accessible
  - Planned to create a standard (course-connected) LibGuide
  - To be Discussed: Creating a non-standard (custom) LibGuide
- Assist with answering general Ask-a-Librarian reference emails



# Keep a Shared Note Document

June 6, 2022:

- Thursday (9<sup>th</sup>) will be a temporary last day for endowment (so other projects can also be completed)

June 3, 2022:

- The endowment is nearing completion, just needs details for selecting the graphics
- Justin checked and marked with graphics USM currently has
- For the LIS 501 LibGuide start working on following the guidelines (example: friendly URLs), then work on the Finding Books and Databases & Articles tabs. If needed clone any boxes/tabs from the LibGuide Testing Area guide.
- Start to brainstorm for a topic of the instruction/workshop
- On Monday (June 6<sup>th</sup>) Justin will add more reference questions to the Teams folder

May 19, 2022:

- New collection development idea from a patron: books on ACT/SAT



# Have an Understanding of When Hours Are Being Completed

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Weekend	Hours
June 20-24	2	2		4pm-7pm	2pm-5pm	6	16
June 27-July 1	6pm-8pm		4pm-7pm	9am-Noon & 5pm-8pm	3pm-5pm	4	16
July 4-8		9am-2pm		4pm-7pm	2pm-5pm	4	15
July 11-15	4pm-8pm	4pm-8pm	5pm-8pm	5pm-8pm	2pm-5pm	4	21
July 18-22	5pm-7pm	4pm-8pm	5pm-8pm	5pm-7pm	2pm-5pm	4	19
July 25-28	4pm-8pm 4pm-8pm		4pm-8pm 4pm-8pm				16

103

Remaining hours as of 6/17

-102.5



# Have an Understanding of Hours Completed

			Required (mintues)	9000
			Completed	9000
Date	Reported Time	Time (min)	Remaining (mintues)	0
5/16/22	7:30 - 9:15	105		
5/18/22	8:30 - 10:45	135	<b>Updated Planned Weekly</b>	<b>10.67</b>
5/19/22	3:00 - 4:00	60	Weekly Meeting	
5/23/22	7:15 - 9:15	120		
5/24/22	7:30-8:30	60	*Having computer issues; so had to cut work down to 1 hour; completing 2023 endowment list; will make up the extra hour this week	
5/25/22	8:30-10:00	90		
5/26/22	9:00 - 10:45	105	LibGuide Training/ Weekly Meeting	
	7:00-8:30	90	Endowment list	
5/27/22	7:15-8:15	60	Endowment list / Skipped Weekly Meeting	
5/31/22	4:30-6:30	120	Added 2 sections to LibGuide; searched for LIS syllabus; endowment research	**If needed tomorrow
6/1/22	9:15-11:30	135	Endowment list	



# Reference Work

## My question::

I am looking for a particular article from the academic journal 'Public Libraries'. The citation for this article is as follows: Dyson, Lillie Seward. 1992. "Improving Reference Services: A Maryland Taining Program Brings Positive Results". Public Libraries 31, no. 5: 284-289. Can you tell me the steps I would use to find this article? Thank you.

## Librarian Response:

Hello! I'm not sure if your article title in your question was typed correctly but I was able to find the article "Improving Reference Services: A Maryland Training Program Brings Positive Results" in the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) database. I first did a Google Scholar search to determine which database it's in. Then, I went into EBSCOhost, selected "choose database" and chose ERIC. Once in the database, I typed the article title in the search window.

- If there is a simple spelling error like the above, I generally assume it was a typo and, in my answer, clearly indicate my search term was training. Although Google Scholar helped you find the article, what is an alternative route that will keep the patron in the library's homepage and possibly teach a new way to find articles?





# Collection Development

	A	B	C	E	F	G	H	I	J
1		BUDGET	\$670.00	BUDGET	\$670.00				
2	<b>2022 James Endowment</b>	Expended	\$0.00	Estimated Cost					
3	TITLE	ISBN	PRICE	AUTHOR	PUBLISHER	YEAR	Grade Level	Nyra's Short Reason/Comments:	Justin's Question
4	5 Worlds Book 5: The Emerald Gate	9780593120606	19.59	rk Siegel & Alexis Sindom House bo		2022	8/12 years	Science-fiction fantasy series; the sci-fi part could be educational	Very good reasoning, it could be educational. This is something that I would ILL just to make sure that it does have some educational connection. I will say this dones encourage reading, which is also an important in the k-12 world.
5	All My Friends	9780374388669	13.87	Hope Larsen	ar, Straus and Gi	2022	10-14 years	NYT Bestsellers book on friendship; part of Eagle Rock Series; non-educational	Good, the idea of friendship is important but we have to follow the terms of the endowment. Plus I believe you have already found a few educational/friendship books
6	My Parents Won't Stop Talking	9781250800275	16.57	Hunsinger, Tilliw	Waring Brook Pre	2022	3-5 years	Teaches patience; comedy; Bestseller. part of a series	Other than patience does it address anything else? Just like Row 6. friendship is

# Library Instruction



## HOW TO USE REFERENCE BOOKS

Nyra White  
July 15, 2022



### Reference Books

- Encyclopedias
- Dictionaries
- Almanacs
- Databases

# Research Guide - Instructional

[University Libraries](#) / [Research Guides](#) / [Library & Information Science 501 - Reference and Information Resources and Services](#) / [Home](#)

## Library & Information Science 501 - Reference and Information Resources and Services: Home

Student course guide

[Home](#)

[Encyclopedias, etc.](#)

[Find Books](#)

[Find Articles & Databases](#)

[Find Journal Title](#)

[Find Videos](#)

[Websites](#)

Home

### Librarian Practicum Student



### Research Guide for Reference and Information Resources and Services 501

This guide provides a starting point for Library Science students, faculty and staff conducting research at the University Libraries. Click on the tabs above to discover books, journal articles, databases and other resources to help you with your course research.

If you need help, please contact the Education and Human Sciences Librarian.

### Search - Everything

Use the Seymour Info search tool to discover items in the USM Libraries'

### Help



- [Schedule a Consultation](#)

# Research Guide - Accessibility



Graphic by: Janessa Ullendorf

## Note for Reviewer

**Note for Reviewer:** Below is the alt text Nyra added to the Boolean Operators image. This text box will be removed before publishing the guide.

- Infographic of three Boolean operators: and, or, and not in yellow circles with gray lines. Next to operator And yellow circle and is a gray box with two bullets explaining how it refines the search it retrieves articles that contain the terms and narrows the search, with an example "video games" AND "teens" in a search window. There is a gray box next to the operator "or" with an explanation of how it helps refine the search it retrieves articles with ANY of the terms and broadens the search, and example "children OR juveniles" in a search window. And next to the not operator yellow circle is a gray box with two bullets explaining how it refines the search it eliminates articles containing the second term and narrows the search, and "games AND teens NOT adults" in the search window.



- Use ? within words to search for **SINGLE CHARACTER** variations (women or woman)

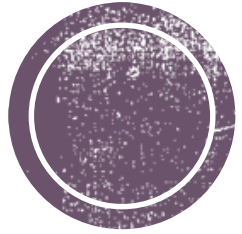
Graphic by: Janessa Ullendorf

## Note for Reviewer

**Note for Reviewer:** Below is the alt text Nyra added to the Truncation, Wildcards, and other Methods image. This text box will be removed before publishing the guide.

- Infographic of two examples of truncation and wildcards to help limit your search. First example is an asterisk in a yellow circle with gray lines. Next to the circle is a gray box that reads "Add asterisk to the end of a keyword to





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