Information Literacy at Seattle Central College

Issue

Most classes at Seattle Central Community College receive a "one-shot" library workshop per quarter. Information literacy competency among students vary, however. One instruction workshop is not adequate to assess student needs and develop the information literacy skills necessary to meet objectives of their coursework. The instructional model of Seattle Central Library currently relies on the liaison librarians and their relationships with faculty on campus.
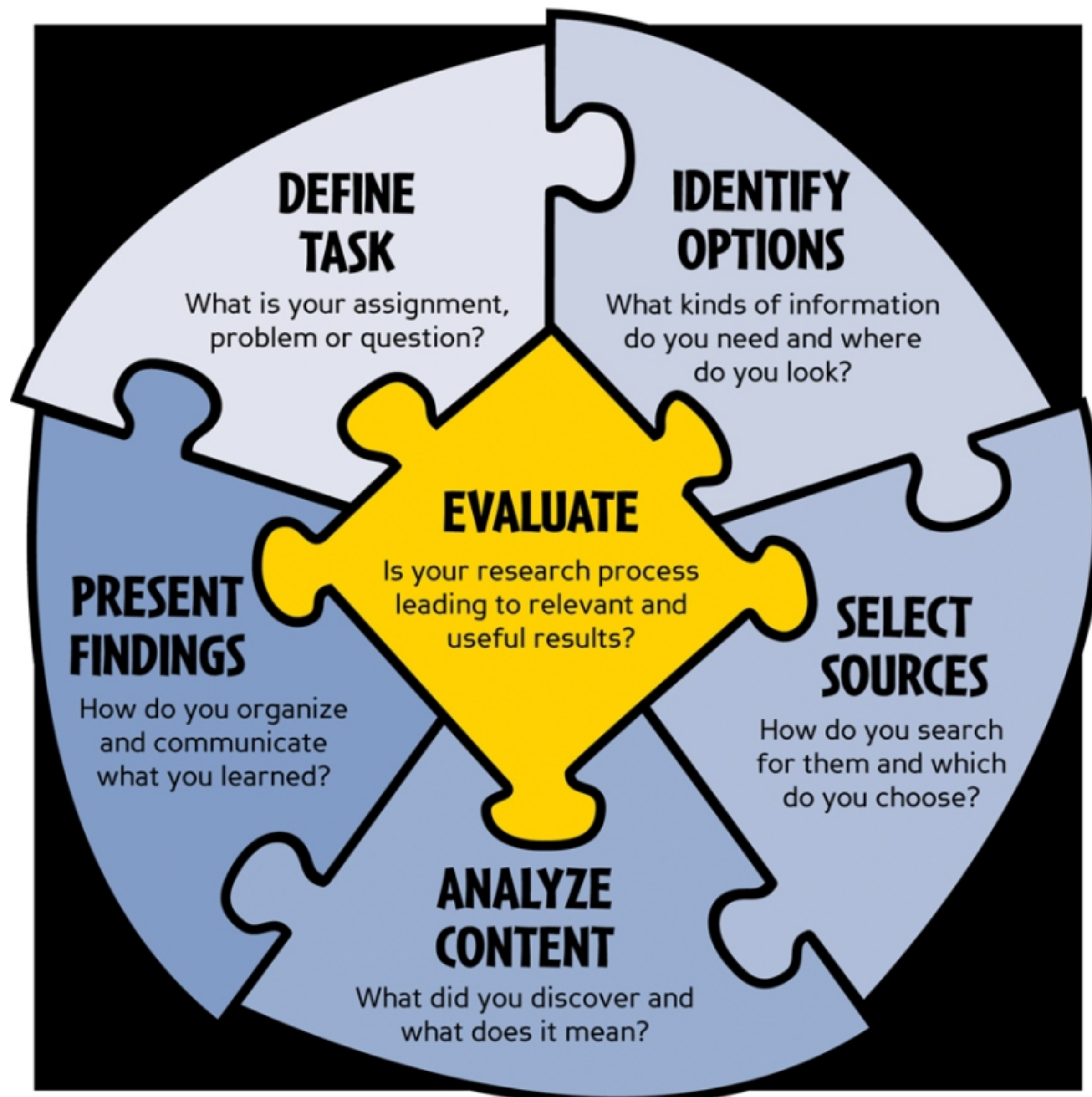
REFLECT · LEARN · CONNECT

DEFINE TASK
What is your assignment, problem or question?

IDENTIFY OPTIONS
What kinds of information do you need and where do you look?

EVALUATE
Is your research process leading to relevant and useful results?

PRESENT FINDINGS
How do you organize and communicate what you learned?

SELECT SOURCES
How do you search for them and which do you choose?

ANALYZE CONTENT
What did you discover and what does it mean?

INFORMATION LITERACY
SEATTLE CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Approach

As an outreach initiative, this project extends the instructional model by identifying a course's syllabus and curriculum—and collaborating with the faculty to integrate information literacy components into the class assignments.

Methods

We conducted a pre-assessment of students' information literacy skills in order to identify students' needs and define the learning outcomes for our embedding program:

Developing a research topic
Identifying keywords
Locating resources
Evaluating sources
Citing sources

SCC DATABASES
- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Opposing Viewpoints in Context
- CQ Researcher
- *ProQuest search engine:*
  - ProQuest Research Library
- *EBSCOhost search engine:*
  - Academic Search Premier
  - ERIC (Education Resources Information Center)

Impact

Our project followed an embedded librarian model that enhanced the relationship between the faculty instructor and librarian. We internally identified the information literacy needs to develop instruction tailored to the class objectives. This alignment of information literacy standards complemented the syllabus and curriculum of the course. We curated research resources pertinent to student topics. Our customized instruction assisted students in exercising the information literacy skills needed to succeed in their assignments.

"The personal guidance from the librarian made me feel confident about the final research assignment. This was the best library workshop I've had here."

— SCC Student

Mario Macías, MLIS
Li Zhou, MLIS

SEATTLE CENTRAL COLLEGE
One of the Seattle Colleges

Information School
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON