

# Workshop Debriefing Fall 2009

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**Total number of workshops attended (registrations)—1333**

(+5.8% from Spring 09 and +16.5% from Fall 08)

**Total number of students—532**

(-2.9% from Spring 09 and +14% from Fall 08)

**Average number of workshops attended by one student—2.5**

(2.3 in Spring 09 and 2.39 in Fall 08)

**Number of professors sending students to workshops—43**

(34 in Spring 09 and 44 in Fall 08)

**Total number of workshops—70**

	Attendance by workshop/Number of workshops/Average attendance		
Current Events	107	7	15.5
Ethics	143	8	17.9
Finding Books	161	7	23
Internet Evaluation	221	11	20
Internet Searching	122	7	17.4
Periodicals	227	12	18.9
Qualifying	99	7	14.1
Research St.	253	11	23
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1333</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>19</b>

This semester we used the same assessment/satisfaction survey.

**Number of surveys completed—1181 (This number is higher since students in the Qualifying Workshop now complete the survey.)**

Two of the questions were quantifiable.

**Question 1**—"Before attending the workshop, how would you rate your expectations about what you would learn?"

**On a 5-point scale ranging from High (5) to Low (1), the average response was 3.5, midway between Average and Above Average.**

**Question 3**—"Will this information help you with research for your college classes?"

**On a 5-point scale ranging from Essential (5) to Not at all (1), the average response was 4.5, midway between Essential and Quite Useful.**

Both of these results are comparable to previous semesters when we polled our attendees and indicate that while expectations for the workshops are fairly high; the students are more enthusiastic about what they learned after the hour-long sessions.

**The results for these quantifiable questions for each workshop are listed below:**

	Question 1	Question 3
Current Events (106 responses)	3.6	4.4
Ethics (143 responses)	3.6	4.4
Finding Books (159 responses)	3.6	4.6
Internet Evaluation (185 responses)	3.6	4.5
Internet Searching (93 responses)	3.8	4.7
Periodicals (155 responses)	3.6	4.5
Qualifying (97 responses)	3.6	4.5
Research St (243 responses)	3.6	4.5

These results were comparable to last semester, indicating that we still have satisfied students!

In response to the second question, "What did you actually learn in this workshop," many of the comments are illustrative of the value of the workshops. I've included a few of the comments:

**Current Events:** "I learned how to utilize the library's website better."

"I learned how to find a wide variety of sources for research."

**Ethics:** "That I never learned how to cite right in high school."

"It actually cleared up a lot of confusion."

**Finding Books:** "I learned not to fear books. I learned how to find books for certain keywords/authors/etc."

"Fast and easier way to find books not only in the BC Library, but also at CSUB and Kern County Libraries."

**Internet Evaluation:** "I really did learn to evaluate a website. I thought I did, but now I really do!"

"To detect false websites, recognize domains and techniques to help my research."

**Internet Searching:** "I learned about Infomine and LII which are going to be extremely helpful."

"I learned ... that there is a lot more to Google than I thought."

**Periodicals:** "There is a massive amount of info available to me, easily."

"Very useful stuff in helping me do research using more tools other than Google."

**Qualifying Print Sources:** "That crediting your sources is important to write a successful paper."

"How to qualify sources which made my assignments in English much more clear."

**Research Strategies:** "A lot, I just did my midterm and the stuff I learned today would have helped. The keyword search was a big one."

"I learned that a good research topic is important as well as using keywords or controlled vocabulary in your searching."

**Changes this semester:** Nancy and Dawn developed a new workshop, **Current Events**, which focused on databases not covered in the **Periodicals Workshop**. This replaced the **Lexis Nexis Workshop** since the library no longer subscribes to Lexis Nexis. In addition, Marci redesigned the **Qualifying Workshop** to take place solely in the classroom. Also, we extended the duration of the workshops to 10 weeks and instituted a ticket system for the Friday and Saturday workshops. Another minor change: we changed the time of our late afternoon workshops from 5:00 to 4:10 and found attendance improved significantly. All of these changes will continue next semester—although we may extend the workshops to only 9 weeks instead of 10.

**Looking ahead:** Since the Friday workshops are so popular (We turned away students.), we will offer some Friday morning workshops in L148. This may not totally alleviate the problem of turning away students, but it will give students more options to take workshops on Fridays when there are few class conflicts. Also, the second qualitative question on the survey will be changed to read: **What questions and/or comments do you have?**