The Quest for Dr. Biblio: Revamping Library Orientation

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Casefile: About UMM

• Liberal Arts Campus
• Diverse student population
• Structured campus orientation for incoming students
  – Library (along w/many depts) involved
Casefile: Past Orientations
Reasons for Restructuring

- Orientation theme encourages re-evaluation
- Library staff (time) involvement
- Student learning & engagement
- Involving other services housed in the library
Defining Learning Outcomes

★ Own the space
★ Show similarities/differences from high school/public library
★ Exposure to key features & services in the library
“Last Friday, supervillain Dr. Biblio was observed looking for a secret message in a book. Briggs Library doesn’t know what the book or message was, but we do know where he went beforehand. Your mission is to retrace Dr. Biblio’s steps, visiting five known locations in this building to gather clues. . . . Specifically, you need to find the answers to the questions he asked in his search. The answers will provide you with a series of clues for locating the book and the secret message.”
Scenario Pro Tip

Be creative. Finding something library staff can be enthusiastic about will make the hard work more enjoyable.
Location/Station Script
Script Pro Tip

You don’t have to reinvent the wheel. Take what you already have and adapt it.
Secret Mission Directions: There are five known locations that Dr. Biblio visited to find the book and secret message. Visit each of those locations and talk to the secret agent librarian about what he was doing there. You do not need to visit the stations in order. Each station has a specific question that you need to answer. The answer you select will give you a clue for finding the book and secret message. Questions about how all this works? Snap back at Mission Headquarters.

Reference Desk:
1) What are the methods of communication for reaching the reference desk?
   a. Only in-person when someone is sitting at the desk – J
   b. By phone, chat or in-person – O
   c. By phone, chat, email or in-person – X
   d. By phone, chat, test, email or in-person – J
2) Don’t forget! Be sure to ask how printing on campus works (example: can I print from my laptop?). Dr. Biblio may have found and printed his information. Do you know where Dr. Biblio picked up his printing?
   a. Reference Desk – V
   b. Circulation Desk – K
   c. Regional Finance Center – P
   d. Johnson Hall – O

Instruction Lab/Course Reserve/Printing:
   Code Here: ______________________

McGinnis Room:
4) What would Dr. Biblio do if the item he needed wasn’t available at Briggs Library?
   a. Watch the movie version of the book – F
   b. Use Interlibrary Loan to request the book or article – H
   c. Read the Wikipedia article. It is good enough – K
   d. Wait until the book was returned – L

Office of Academic Success:
5) Dr. Biblio needs help in his Calculus class. What option is available to him for free on campus?
   a. PAL – Peer Assisted Learning Sessions – 22
   b. Drop-in Math Rooms – 12
   c. One-on-One Appointment Based Tutor – 34
   d. All of the above – 83

Writing Center:
6) Dr. Biblio’s assistant wants help writing her essay manuscript. What kind of help can she get at the Writing Center?
   a. Re-organizing a draft she’s already written – 1993
   b. Brainstorming ideas for the manuscript she hasn’t started writing yet – 1989
   c. Publishing the introduction so it sounds just the way she wants it to – 1976
   d. Figuring out how to format her bibliography – 2012
   e. All of the above – 2000

CODE HERE:
1 2 3 4 5 6

Use the “code” to locate the book and complete your mission.

What is the secret message?

Please bring completed mission to the Circulation Desk to debrief and enter the drawing.
MissionClipboard

Reference Desk:

1) What are the methods of communication for reaching the reference desk?
   a. Only in-person when someone is sitting at the desk. — I
   b. By phone, chat or in-person. — O
   c. By phone, chat, email or in-person. — X
   d. By phone, chat, text, email or in-person. — J

2) Don’t forget! Be sure to ask how printing on campus works (example: can I print from my laptop?). Dr. Biblio may have found and printed his information. Do you know where Dr. Biblio picked up his printing?
   a. Reference Desk — V
   b. Circulation Desk — K
   c. Regional Fitness Center — P
   d. Behmler Hall — O

Office of Academic Success:

5) Dr. Biblio needs help in his Calculus class. What option is available to him for free on campus?
   a. PAL - Peer Assisted Leader Sessions — 22
   b. Drop-In Math Room — 12
   c. One-on-One Appointment Based Tutor — 34
   d. All of the above — 83

Writing Center:

6) Dr. Biblio’s assistant wants help writing her evil manifest! What kind of help can she get at the Writing Center?
   a. Re-organizing a draft she’s already written. — 1995
   b. Brainstorming ideas for the manifesto she hasn’t started writing yet. — 1989
   c. Polishing the introduction so it sounds just the way she wants it to. — 1976
   d. Figuring out how to format her bibliography. — 2012
   e. All of the above. — 2000

CODE HERE:

J K

Use the code to locate the book and complete your mission.

What is the secret message?

Please bring completed mission to the Circulation Desk to debrief and enter the drawing.
Mission Clipboard Pro Tip

Always be asking “What’s the takeaway?”
Congratulations! If you are reading this, you found Dr. Biblio’s secret message! (See below.)

Briggs Library’s first Game Night is on Friday, August 26 at 6pm. Be there!
--R.A.B.

Write the secret message on your clipboard and bring it to the Circulation Desk for debriefing. In recognition of your success, you may also take one of the slips of paper in this envelope to enter into a drawing at the Circulation Desk.

Please return this book to its spot on the shelf so that other secret agents can find it.
Post-Mission Debriefing: Student Feedback

Formal Feedback
- Decrease in “very unhelpful” rating
- Slight increase in “helpful” or “very helpful” rating.

Informal Feedback
- Infectious excitement from group leaders.
Discussion Questions

Find a neighbor and discuss:

1. Favorite part of your library orientation?
2. Biggest challenges?
3. How might you “gamify” your library orientation? If already doing this, how is it going?
Questions? Comments?

If you want to chat further or see our materials, contact us at

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Thank you for coming!