ACS Grant

Inclusive Pedagogy for Library Instruction

2018-2019

1. Describe the project.

As our institutions seek to cultivate more diverse and inclusive environments, library instruction provides an opportunity for librarians to also consider our own biases and utilize inclusive pedagogies to improve our learning environments for all. While there are programs to introduce inclusive pedagogies to traditional classrooms on our campuses, library instruction presents unique challenges. Many times, we are conducting what we call “one-shots” that hinder our ability to apply certain pedagogical techniques. In particular, time constraints and predetermined content requirements make it difficult to establish and sustain relationships with our students in the same way that instructors of record do.

3. Explain the project’s relevance to one or more of the grant themes.

The project ties together both the Innovative Instruction and Diversity and Inclusion themes. As our campuses become more diverse, the learner-centered and equity-focus of inclusive pedagogy will be critical to student—and institutional—success. The libraries provide a unique opportunity to influence institutional culture because we engage with students and faculty across departments and divisions. Modeling inclusive practices in library instruction reinforces the inclusive environments faculty are striving to create throughout the semester and that our institutions seek through strategic goals and inclusive initiatives across campus.

Project Goals:

\* To learn more about what inclusive pedagogy is and how it is applied generally to higher education

\* To learn more about related pedagogies, such as critical theory, LGBTQ+ studies, and anti-racist pedagogy, and how they are currently manifested in library instruction

\* To apply ideas of inclusive pedagogy and related pedagogies to library-specific instruction, particularly one-shot classes and workshops

\* Identify potential inclusive best practices for library instruction and pilot them in real-classroom situations

\* Identify appropriate measures for determining the impact of inclusive pedagogy practices on students

\* Identify specific situations which increase inclusive instruction success

\* Create a support network for innovative inclusive instruction across ACS libraries