



Simmons Library Fellowship: Research & Learning

Job Description:

Research & Learning Team is a collective of committed information professionals, who foster the Simmons community's critical thinking, professional development, and scholastic exploration by guiding patrons to research tools and strategies, promoting information literacy development, and supporting a curriculum of vibrant inquiry and learning experiences. Student-centeredness, investment in community, and commitments to accessibility and equity underpin Research & Learning's service to the Simmons University academic programs in order to engage students with their fields' existing and emergent information praxes and to steward the knowledge practices and capacity-building of future scholarly and professional leaders. Under the guidance of and in collaboration with the Research & Learning Team and Team Coordinator, the Research & Learning Fellow will support the execution of core departmental functions and of its mission. Emphasizing learning through doing, the R&L Fellow will learn, in conjunction with their classwork, both the pedagogical and practical aspects of topics in subject librarianship, including, but not limited to information literacy, teaching & learning support, research assistance, collection development, and relationship-/partnership-building, both in person and virtually.

Practically, this means assisting in the development of information literacy instruction and resources; delivering research services and answering patron questions; participating in collection development work; participating in programming and outreach to the Simmons Community; engaging in Library-wide collaboration, planning, and projects; and attending to professional development that supports the department, the Library, and the Fellow's goals. The fellowship will culminate in the completion of a capstone project, the topic, format, and potential practical application to be chosen by the Fellow and approved by Research & Learning Team members.

As part of the University Library's ongoing commitment to celebrating the humanity, dignity, lived experiences, and contributions of the entire Simmons scholarly and professional community, the Fellow actively incorporates principles of antiracism and diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging into their teaching, service, and support of students.

Within a pedagogical model meant to introduce and strengthen understanding of subject librarianship theories and best practices, key work activities for the Research & Learning Fellow include:

- Assisting in the development and delivery of information literacy instruction and resources
 - Shadow, assist, and eventually lead course instruction sessions & lesson planning
 - Build, develop, edit, and audit content for discipline-specific and community guides
 - Create and launch asynchronous learning content
 - Research and develop resources and responsive curation to address curricular needs

- Collaborating with User Services and Research and Learning staff to deliver research and reference assistance and support direct service, interlibrary collaboration, and discovery

- Under the direction of the Research and Learning team lead, develop, support, and facilitate active communication and collaboration between Research and Learning Librarians and student reference workers. Develop and maintain training and onboarding materials for student reference workers
- Provide timely and dynamic reference service & support for all aspects of direct service at the Service Desk
- Observe and eventually take research consultations for students and faculty
- Learn strategies and tools for addressing research needs
- Participating in curriculum- and discipline-relevant collection development.
 - Engage with patron-driven and evidence-informed practices for selection and deselection of discipline-specific collections
 - Learn strategies and tools used to facilitate the selection of new books and other resources
 - Identify new areas and initiatives for collection development to meet curriculum and community needs
- Participating in engagement, programming, and outreach to the Simmons Community.
 - Develop and create displays, programs, and social media content that promote equity and access and that highlight and promote Library or University events, initiatives, services, and collections.
 - Attend academic department & college faculty meetings, University community and committee proceedings, and student group events to build rapport and to inform ongoing needs assessment and resource development
 - Create and disseminate engaging marketing and outreach materials for R&L and Library resources and initiatives
 - Contribute to the development of inclusive programming initiatives that emphasize interdisciplinarity, community-centeredness, and collaboration
- Reflecting on your learning, work, and goals.
 - Create a journal, blog, zine, padlet, or similar documentation of new systems, practices, and skills you learn throughout the phases of the Fellowship program
 - Keep track of questions, knowledge gaps, and curiosities you want to explore in your work and your coursework
 - Participate in one-on-one and group mentorship to support your learning and to develop your goals