

INFORMATION LITERACY IN STEM SUMMER SCHOLAR ACADEMY

Passaic County Community College

Presented by:

Elaine Goldman, MLS

Kathleen Vancheri, MA

STEM SUMMER SCHOLAR ACADEMY

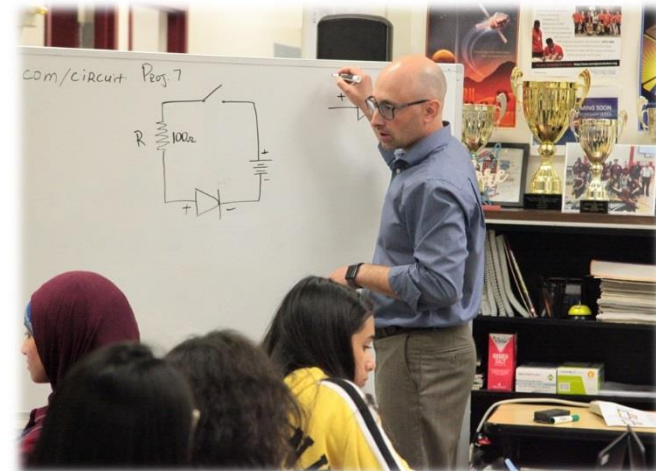
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Student Success Coach



- STEM Summer Scholar Academy
- Students who recently graduated high school and are enrolled in PCCC AND who are majoring in a STEM field (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math).
- Majority of these students are 1st generation College students who need extra support at PCCC.
- **4 week** Summer program students participate in before starting the Fall semester at PCCC.
- In this program, students are enrolled in College Success course .
 - The students attend STEM themed workshops each week.





- Purpose of the Summer Scholar Academy
 - To meet and work with their success coaches beginning Summer through the Fall and their entire time at PCCC until they graduate.
 - Create awareness of the resources available to the students at PCCC-included in the AM sessions during the Summer program, including presentations from the library at PCCC.

How STEM connects to Literacy

- During the Summer Program, we discuss and demonstrate how to effectively communicate through speaking and researching/writing/citing papers.
- STEM students need soft skills to communicate their thoughts and ideas to their peers and instructors, and eventually within their STEM career.
- At the end of the Summer program, students are aware of the Library resources at PCCC and how to use them during the Fall semester and beyond. (Library, Writing Center, tutoring).

Science in the News Essay

Start at <https://pccc.libguides.com/scienceinthenews>

This website provides tips to help you write your essay.

Step 1: Research



Assignment: Write a one - two page essay (500 words minimum) in MLA Citation style, using at least one news article. Start at the website listed above; search for a news article on a STEM topic that interests you.

The news article will help to narrow your essay topic. For example: **Technology > Driverless cars.**

Skim the article(s). On the first reading, look for the most important points. Select an article long enough to have enough points.

Evaluate the article (see Evaluate tab) Ask questions as you read. A popular formula is the 5W's...Who / What / Where / When / Why

E-mail the article to your PCCC school e-mail address by using the Library database "e-mail" or "share."

Topic approval: E-mail the article or topic description from PCCC e-mail to dreer@pccc.edu

DEADLINE for submitting topic for approval is: TUES - JULY 24, 2018

Step 2: Writing

Write down the main idea of the article. This can be your topic or thesis statement. You will use this sentence in the first paragraph of your essay.

Then **take notes**. One way is to read a few paragraphs, then put it aside and write what you remember in your own words.

Outline your ideas. The basic outline:

Introduction

Main ideas - Support each idea with examples and facts from your research. The article subheadings can provide supporting ideas.

Conclusion

Use the **MLA template** for your essay.

Create the MLA citation for the article(s). Look for a "cite" link in database articles.

Place citation(s) on the last page of your essay on a separate page entitled "Works Cited".

Review the **"MLA 8"** and the **"Citing and Plagiarizing"** tabs for more writing tips.

Include two graphic images / pictures in your essay.

Write a rough draft. Refer back to your outline and topic statement if you are at a loss as to what to write next.

Read and revise. Try and complete the essay a day or two before the deadline so you can fine tune it.

Check for spelling and grammar.

DEADLINE for submission is WED - AUGUST 1, 2018

Article
approval

STEM RESEARCH PROJECT:

SCIENCE IN THE NEWS

Presented by:

Elaine Goldman, MLS

Instruction Librarian

PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PCCC / LibGuides / Science in the News / STEM ASSIGNMENT

Science in the News: STEM ASSIGNMENT

URL: <https://pccc.edu/libguides/science-in-the-news>

Evaluate & Summarize
(Scholarship as Conversation)

Find
(Topic Index)

Cite

Step 1 - Select an article

Select an article on a STEM topic, using the [Topic Index](#) from Today's Science or one of the other Library databases.

Email the article to yourself, then

Forward the article to Dennis Reer, dreer@pccc.edu for topic approval.

Step 2- Write the Essay

Read the article, **Take notes, putting the ideas into your own words (paraphrasing)**. See the [Plagiarism](#) and [Citing](#) tabs for more on paraphrasing. You can look for other articles, see [Evaluating](#) tab to help with article selection.

Write a one - two page essay (minimum 500 words) in MLA style, using at least one article on the topic.

Place the article citation(s) into the **Works Cited** list on the last page of your paper.

Off on Blackboard, click on the Library Link, for username and password to

Today's Science
Articles Written Especially for Students

1. Topic Index from Today's Science - Click (HERE) to view topics. Click on a topic to explore the articles. For example: Technology > Transportation > Driverless cars.

- Scroll down the page to find an article on a topic that interests you.
- At the top of the article, you will find a link to "Share" to email the article link to yourself.
- At the bottom of the article, you will find the Citation for your Works Cited page.



2. You can also look for a topic in these online magazines: Scientific American or Science News. Search HERE.

- Combine this search using the word AND with a STEM topic, such as Mathematics. In the example below, we combined the word mathematics with other related ideas.

Search this site

Search

Term

- Template for MLA 8 paper (MS Word format)

Save time!

Download this Template

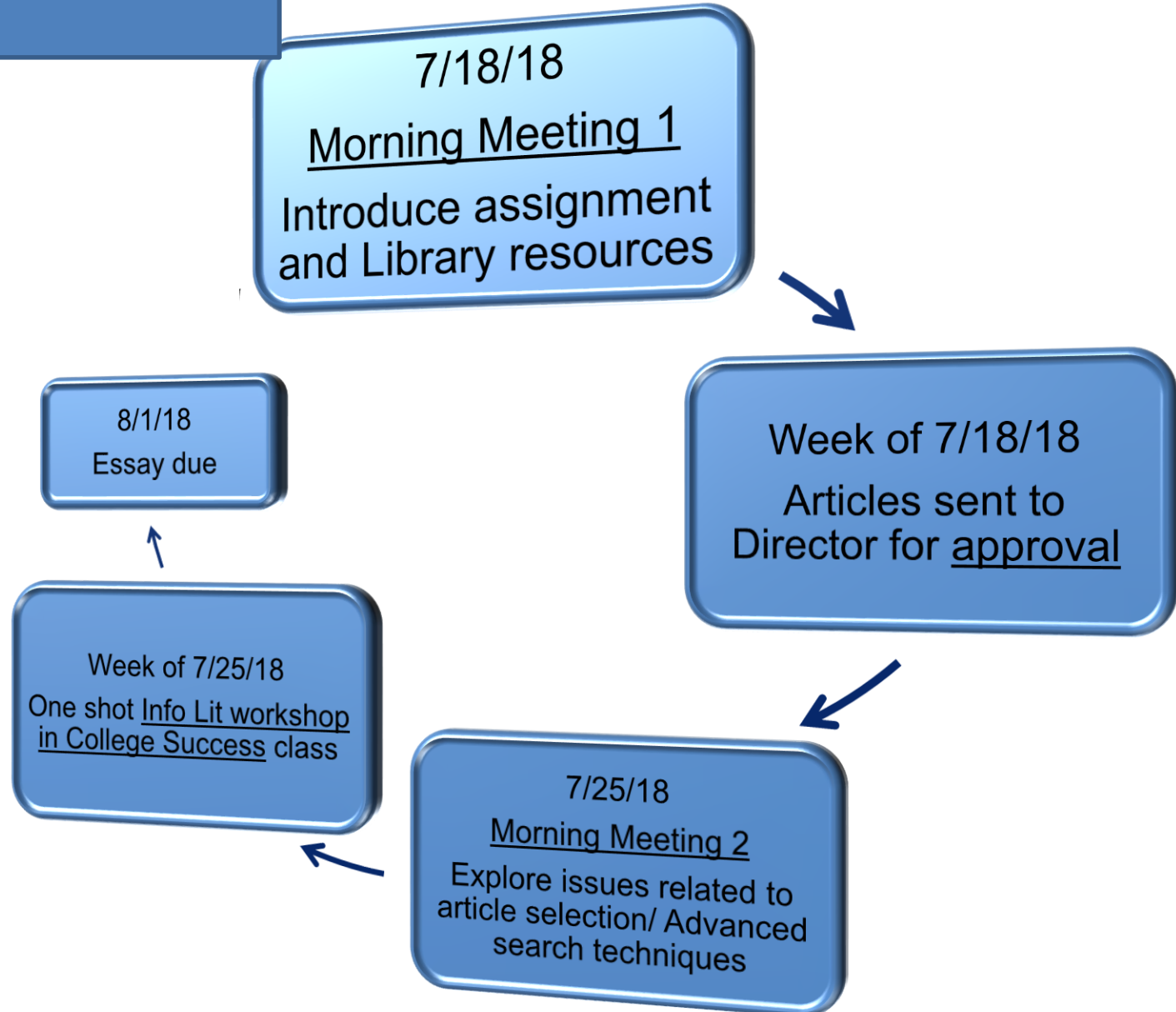
It has been prepared in Microsoft Word format for an MLA style Research Paper

- Font, size: 12 (Times New Roman recommended)
- Paragraph style
- Double space
- MLA style Headings
- "Works Cited" page
- Margins: 1 inch on all sides, 1/4 inch from header

As soon as you find your first source, add it to the "Works Cited" page.

NOTE: Always contact your professor for assignment requirements.

Timeline



Challenge

First semester students had wide variety of gaps in knowledge

Opportunities

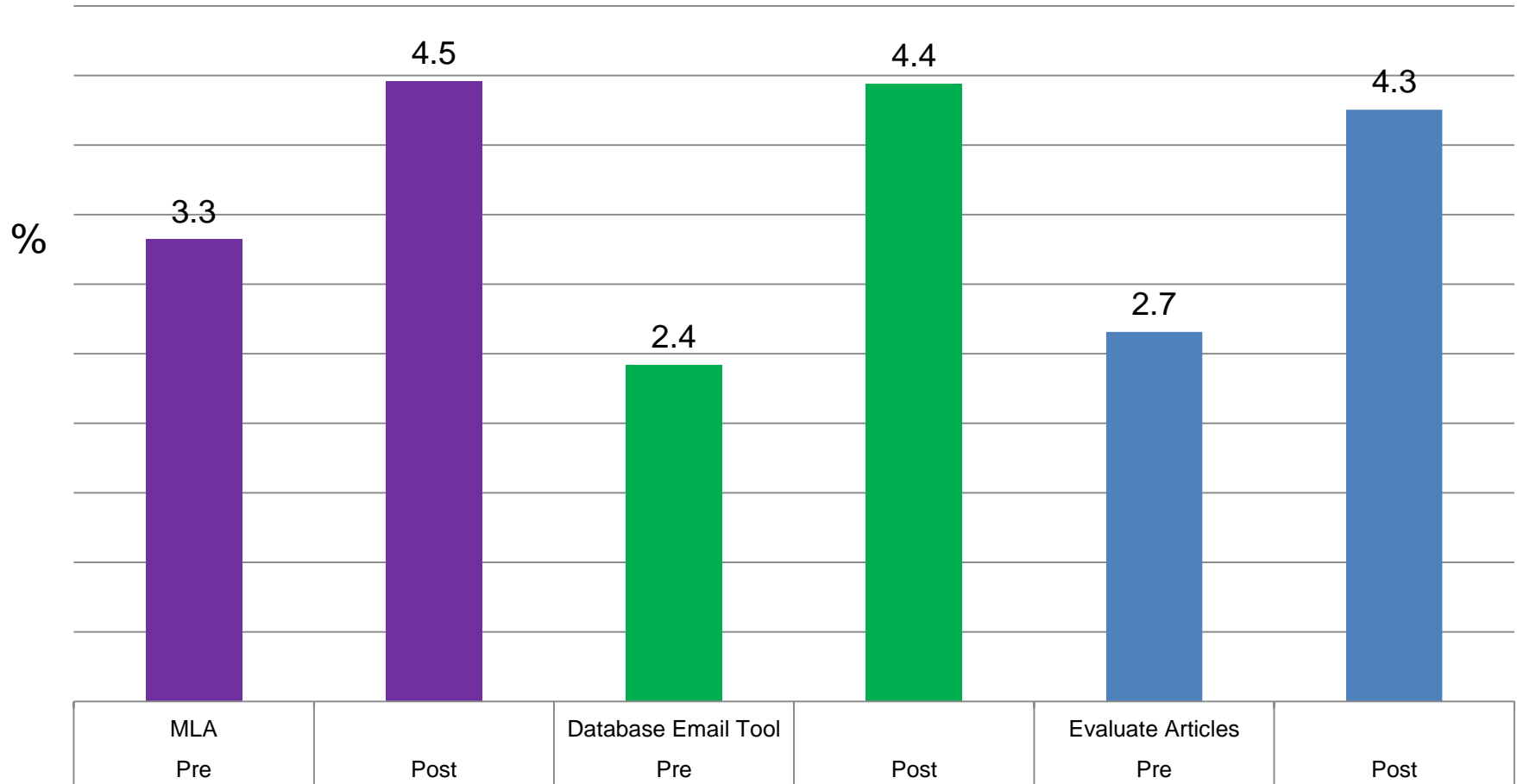
-STEM team / Success Coach **assisted students** with basic skills

-Demonstrate **Library database features** to narrow down topic

-**MLA template** and handouts provided

Survey results

Perception of Knowledge



Scale 1-5 (low - high)

34 responses

Take-aways – what worked

- Incremental interventions; identify students in need of assistance early
- Active learning, using step by step instructions in multiple formats
- STEM team reinforcing Information Literacy concepts



Key ingredient :
Collaboration

Between STEM team,
instructors, librarians

