Tutorials: Philosophies and Features

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Presentation content

Will cover:

- Pedagogical principles
- Examples of features
- Compare to wizards
- Possible collaborations?

Won't cover:

- "How to" instructions
- Software or technology
- Comprehensive survey of govt docs tutorials
- Online vs real time teaching

Narrow definition of "Tutorial"

- Outcome involves learning a new skill or concepts
- Guided step by step explanation
- Modular approach
- Interactive
- Dynamic (animations to "show" not just tell)

Focus on the User

"To be educated is not to be informed, but to find illumination in informed living."

Eduard Lindeman, from The Meaning of Adult Education (1926)

Pedagogical Principles

What are the characteristics of a good online tutorial?

Pedagogical Principles

- Culturally inclusive
- Objectives and outcomes outlined
- Provide context (why)
- Problem-based (or assignment-based) and teach concepts as well as skills
- Stimulate recall of prior learning

- Accommodate different learning styles via multimedia
- Allow for non-linear learning (modular)
- Simple and self-evident navigation
- Elicit performance (allow practice)

More pedagogical principles…

- Provide feedback - allow the user to test his understanding
- Enhance retention
- Provide a way to contact a librarian or other real-time helper
- Function well for target audience

- Be routinely updated by the provider
- Have mechanisms built in for the provider to evaluate effectiveness of the tutorial over time

A well-mannered tutorial

- Is welcoming and approachable
- Doesn't waste people's time
- Doesn't bore or intimidate people
- Impresses users by the speed with which their problem is solved, not the complexity of the tutorial
- Doesn't give outdated information

Some advantages of online tutorials . . .

- Remote & 24/7 access
- Accommodate different learning styles via multimedia
- Repeatable
- Individually paced
- Sometimes more interactive
- Accommodate different levels of prior knowledge

Virtual or Real Time…

All teaching involves some tradeoffs

Those pesky tradeoffs…

We want to anticipate questions and need for more info…
But avoid overly long tutorials with complicated screens and tricky navigation

We want a contemporary and interesting presentation…
Without creating technological problems for users

…more tradeoffs

We want tutorials for solving problems not just showing use of a resource out of context…
But we can't design umpteen tutorials for lots of different situations

We want to target specific audiences…
How many versions can we realistically maintain?
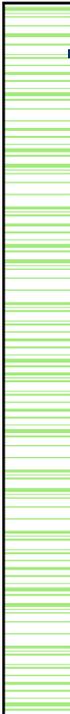
What type of teaching device do you want?

- Drill and Practice
- Simulation
- Step-by-step tutorial
- Skill-based or conceptual or both
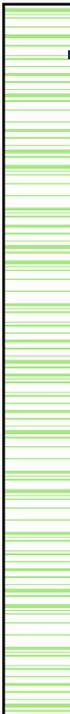
Who is the audience?

- Older or younger people?
- Students with specific assignment or members of public with research needs?
- Local users in familiar context or wide open to the public?
- What levels of prior knowledge?
- What time frame—leisurely self–education or quick study with quick results?

URLS

LOBO
www.lib.ncsu.edu/lobo2/

Patent Guide
www.lib.ncsu.edu/ptdl/patents
/searching.html

Patent Tutorial
www.lib.ncsu.edu/ptdl/patents
/searches2.html

URLS

ERIC
www.lib.ncsu.edu/distance/instruction
/eric/

Dog Quiz
quiz.ivillage.com/pets/tests/dogs.htm

GIS data wizard
www.lib.ncsu.edu/stacks/gis/datawiz.
html

Modular structure facilitates navigation.

Questions prompt students to **analyze**, **synthesize**, and **evaluate** based on **actual** assignments.

Screenshot 1

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back | Search | Favorites | Media

Address http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/lobo2/view_responses_new.html

Links Google Backflip It! triangle.com AT&T NCSU webcal Oak Oakleaf Eastwood SearchBug OBC QuotaCheck Makeup

LOBO Worksheet
Student Reponses

The Research Process – Manage Your Time
Use the Assignment Calculator to plan the work for one of your assignments.
1.3.1 What is the name of the assignment?
ENG 101 Literature Review

1.3.2 What is the date today?
September 15, 2003

1.3.3 When is your assignment due?
October 7, 2003

According to the Assignment Calculator...
1.3.4 When should you have chosen your topic?
Sept 17

1.3.5 When should you begin finding books/articles/web sites?

1.3.6 When should you make an outline?

1.3.7 When should you write your first draft?

Defining Research Needs – Understand Your Assignment
2.1.1 What important verbs are included in the description of your assignment that indicate how you should approach your topic?

Answers to interactive questions are transferred to a printable worksheet.

Done | Internet

Start | Oakleaf,... | megano... | Novell-d... | The Re... | Re: NCL... | Microsof... | LOBO: ... | 11:59 AM

Screenshot 2

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back | Search | Favorites | Media

Address http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/lobo2/rstrategy/keyword_builder2.html

Links Google Backflip It!

LOBO
Librar

The Research Process
Defining Research Needs
Developing A Research Strategy
Define Your Topic
Brainstorm Search Terms
Build a Keyword Search
Keyword Builder

Conducting the Search
Evaluating Resources
Using Resources
Need Help?
Table of Contents
LOBO Home Page

Librarian

LOBO: Make a Boolean Search - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Close Window

Keyword Builder: Make a Boolean Search

Enter search terms:

Concept 1	Concept 2	Concept 3
women	college	athletics
OR	OR	OR
female	university	

AND   AND

Create Search

Your Boolean search looks like this:

(women OR female) AND (college OR university) AND athlet

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Interactive elements include Keyword and Citation Builders...

KEYWORD

The **Keyword Builder** demonstrates how these concepts can be combined using **AND**. Click on the Keyword Builder, then click the "Create Search" button. Notice how women, college, and athletics are combined into a **search string**.

Done | Internet

Start | Oakleaf, M... | meganoakl... | Novell-deliv... | LOBO2 - Ke... | Re: NCLA ... | Microsoft P... | LOBO: Ma... | 11:57 AM

11
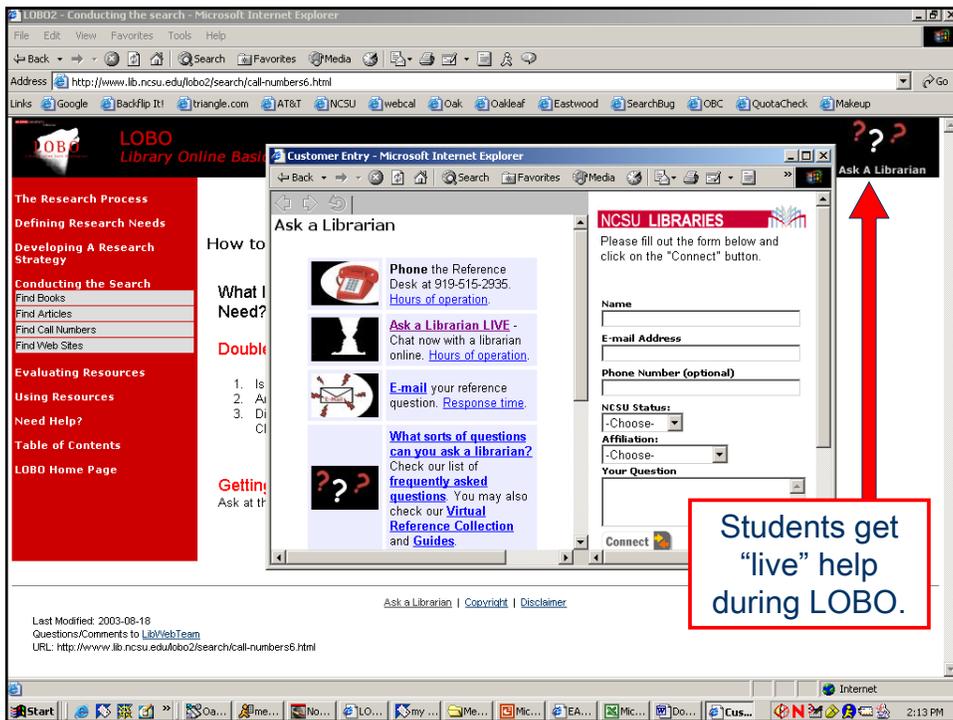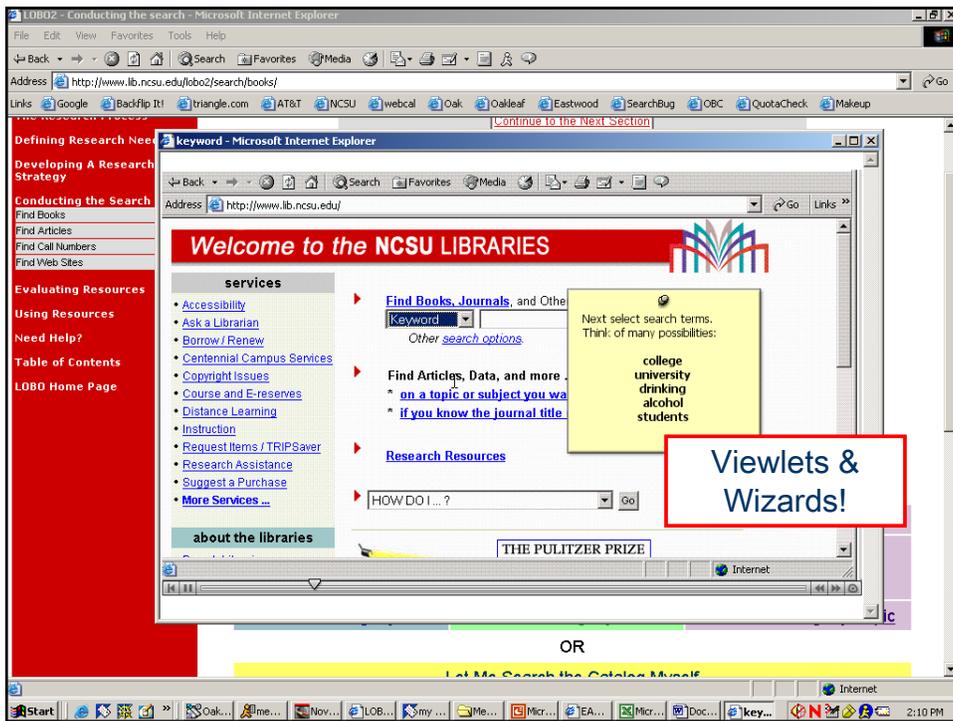
Elements of LOBO

 ♦ Qarbon Viewlet Builder makes a shockwave flash file that is readable in most browsers
 ♦ Worksheet is built using cookies and is not retained when the browser closes.
 ♦ Chat is staffed until midnight 4 nights a week.
 ♦ Passive viewlet demo, guided search, or simulation are all available

Welcome to NCSU Libraries
Patent and Trademark Depository Library

Introduction

General Questions About Patents

How to Search for Patents

Can I do this at home?

Before you visit us...

Databases, Print Guides and Web Sites

Patent Searching

Patent searching varies in complexity, based on your particular needs. If you are searching for a "known" patent, for example, you have a patent number already, or you are looking for something your grandfather invented, or you want a list of everything Ocean Spray has ever invented, you can do this relatively easy on the USPTO web site. If, however, you are an inventor, looking to see if anyone has claims to a similar patent, you can expect hours of searching. **Read this before beginning your patent search.**

Please select the option that is closest to your question.

REMEMBER:

 • All patents ever issued are in the USPTO web database. However, only patents issued from 1976- now are available in full text. **The only way to search online for patents issued before 1976 is either by patent number, or by Classification Code.**
 • To see the full patent image, you must have a TIFF viewer installed on your PC. To get one, go to http://www.alternatiff.com and intall the TIFF viewer plug-in.

Caution!

Tutorials tied to database interfaces are very time-intensive to maintain!
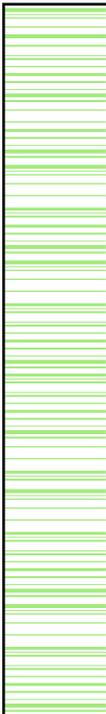
WIZARDS

What is a Wizard and how could it be useful?

"Quiz yourself!"

What kind of dog would you be?
by Jennifer Degtjarewsky

If your personality traits were matched to a particular breed of dog, which would you resemble? Take our quiz for fun and find out.

send this quiz to a friend   see all quizzes

1. You are working hard on a project that is due tomorrow. Unannounced, a group of friends appear at your doorstep. You:
   - Welcome them in and forget my project
   - Order out for pizza, delegate duties and ask them to help with my project
   - Invite them in and put on a pot of coffee, secretly worrying about how late I will be up finishing my project
   - Pretend I am not home
   - Answer the door, but let them know I am working and it is not a good time for a visit

2. How much work do you put into your hair?
   - A wash and blow-dry have me ready to go
   - I run my fingers through it and go
   - My hair is out of control; I have to work hard to keep it presentable
   - A set and comb at the beauty shop keeps me going for a week

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Why use a wizard?

A guide would be too complex
- Array of choices to make
- Complex assortment of resources

Tutorials require investment
- Not trying to build step-by-step skills
- No captive audience

One Possible use….

GIS DATA

- User has specific format, date and geography requirements
- Complex array of available data with various restrictions
- Users may need data features explained
- Frequent request

I need orthophoto data:

- 1990-2000 data
- Wake County, NC
- A certain projection type
- Available online immediately
- NCSU affiliate

Upkeep Issues

- External links are persistent object identifiers

Legislative History Wizard

- ◆ **Resources have varied access points**
- ◆ **Resources provide different types of information**
- ◆ **Dates matter**
- ◆ **What your institution owns or can access matters**

A Legislative History Wizard

What the user might know:
- ◆ PL # or Bill # and Congress #
- ◆ Common or proper name

What the user might want:
Background reports, roll call votes, hearing testimony, bill text, floor debate, signing statements, etc.

Access	Provides	Start Date	End Date	Title
1	1	1790	present	
1, 2	1,2	1799	1873	
2, 3	1,2	1819	1873	
1, 4	2,3,4	1970	present	

Govt Information Tutorials and Wizards

What are our opportunities for collaboration?

Some possibilities…

- ◆ Finding longitudinal census data for small geographies
- ◆ Training our docs assistants
- ◆ Training new librarians in a combined depts situation
- ◆ Or…?