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Neuroscience Subject Guide for the University of Miami

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Background: Is this Research Guide going to be beneficial or useful?


This article looked at whether or not library Research Guides were used at universities and, if used, if they were beneficial. Rafferty concluded that in their experiment, that “library instruction had an impact on student’s work.” Students who were taught how to use a Research Guide, or exposed to Research Guide were able to remember more information when tested, and cited more information. This article is background as justification to continue with this project.

Section 1: Articles on How to Create a Survey

Before I began collecting information from professors and students around campus, I wanted to make sure my survey that I emailed out was coherent, easy to fill out, and asked the right questions. I did some research on how to create a proper survey:


This website delved into how to begin writing a survey, types of questions to include in a survey (yes/no versus open ended ones), and the type of language to use in a survey.


This website delved into some tips for writing a qualitative survey. I asked the professors and faculty qualitative and not quantitative data, so this helped me word my questions in a way that was easy to understand and answer.


This was an interesting article that looked at the effectiveness of online surveys. I wanted to make sure emailing was an effective and useful method to ask my questions, instead of just going into office hours or making a phone call. “It concluded that online survey researchers should conduct a careful assessment of their research goals, research timeline, and financial situation before choosing a specific product or service.” This led me to do more research into my survey (see the previous websites) and proceed with an email survey.
Section 2: Professors to Email


I went onto the Neuroscience home page to collect a list of faculty and staff I could contact for information to include in my Research Guide. I wanted this to be very specific to University of Miami students and faculty, because I felt their input would be useful. I emailed Dr. Bramlett, the head of the Neuroscience Major, to confirm this list, and she recommended which doctors to email to collect information.

Section 3: History of Neuroscience

As part of my Research Guide, I included links to websites about the history of neuroscience.


This article looked at the history of neuroscience including its main contributors and how it has developed into the field it is today. This article was included as a link on my Research Guide for students looking for an in-depth look at neuroscience history and its major developments.


This article looked at the history of neuroscience from Early Egypt to modern times. This article was included as a link on my Research Guide for students looking for an in-depth look at neuroscience history and its major developments.


This website detailed the history of the Society of Neuroscience and its creation, along with the progression of neuroscience as a field. The Society of Neuroscience is a leading organization for scientists and physicians devoted to understanding the brain and the nervous system, and so it was important to include.

Section 4: History of Neuroscience at the University of Miami

I wanted a tab for the History of Neuroscience at the University of Miami. I included information from an interview with Dr. McCabe and from online about the creation of the Neuroscience Program at the University of Miami. I also included information on different clubs and resources for students at UM who are Neuroscience majors.

This is the Nu Rho Psi (Honor Society of Neuroscience) home page. I spoke to Nicole Lavina, the Undergraduate Neuroscience advisor for 2018, and she recommended I include information on Nu Rho Psi and UConnect, two University of Miami societies for research and neuroscience. Most of the information for this section was collected through emails with students who run the organizations.


While the history of neuroscience is very interesting, this Research Guide will be dedicated to University of Miami faculty, staff, and students, so I wanted to include a section called the “History of Neuroscience at the University of Miami”. Information was collected from Professors and Faculty who can give first-hand information on the development of neuroscience as a field. This document is from the Faculty Senate club meeting the day the neuroscience major was voted into being a major at UM. It discusses the curriculum of the major, why it was created, and to contains more background information.

**Section 5: Jobs one can get with Neuroscience Major**

The articles collected here served as a reference for the tab on my Research Guide about jobs that are neuroscience-related.


Christopher Newport University has a list of different fields and different jobs that one can get in the field, as well as skills and abilities a neuroscience major offers.


This article is slightly old, but it also lists good areas that Neuroscience majors can look to for jobs and ways to market Neuroscience as a skill set for different types of jobs.


This is a list of different neuroscience-type jobs that I used to help form my list on my Research Guide.


This article describes the different fields of science related to neuroscience, and it lists jobs that can benefit from a neuroscience perspective, something students can use to find a career path that interests them or to use as their major to market themselves correctly for a job.
Section 6: Examples of Good Research Guides

The articles collected here served as a reference for how to structure my Research Guide, and what information I wanted to include.

Michigan Institute of Technology Libraries: This guide was unique because it had constant updates for new books related to neuroscience. This was an interesting feature that I incorporated into my guide in my Books tab.

Duke Libraries: This guide had an extensive list of different websites, journals, and books about neuroscience. I cross-referenced their list of important neuroscience information with mine to see what was worth including in the guide.

University of Michigan Libraries: This Research Guide is very extensive and detailed. It had sections of information not included in other guides, and I used this guide to assist in making mine.

University of Oregon Libraries: While this Research Guide also assisted in my citation section, How to Cite Sources, it also has an extensive guide with books and articles different from those I saw on any of the other sites.

Washington State University Libraries: I liked this guide because it was simple and easy to use. They had an interesting tab on how to develop a research question. I wanted my guide to have more details but this was a good place to start.

Section 7: How to Cite Source

I wanted to include in my research guide basic information on how to cite sources and use reference management tools. I included information from this website and provided links to more through information for students.

The webpage served as a reference for the tab on my Research Guide about how to cite sources or use citation software. This was helpful for first time researchers and students to allow them to effectively and correctly begin gathering information of interest to them. This page was useful for me on how to use and download citation software, and so I felt it would be useful to others.