2019

Scavenger Hunt Reflection Lab Report

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A. <u>Scavenger Hunt Description</u>
  ❏ This Scavenger Hunt Assignment is designed for the First Year Seminar for Natural Sciences (NSF 101) and the First Year Seminar for Liberal Arts: Math and Science (LMF 101) (STEM majors).
  ❏ The main objective of this assignment is to familiarize students with their campus and its resources, to encourage students to collaborate with each other, and to be aware that the scientific method is applied to solve any problem, not just scientific issues. It is meant to address the Integrative Learning Core Competency.
  ❏ Students are given the entire class time (at least two hours) to complete the assignment. For LMF sections, I often add more clues, because the class runs for an additional hour. I have the students report back to class, so we can discuss and share their experiences and explain the follow-up Lab Report Reflection. For LMF sections the discussion is after the 2 hours allotted for the clues. The NSF section discusses the Scavenger Hunt and follow-up Lab Report Reflection the next class following the Scavenger Hunt group activity. The Lab Report Reflection is due the week following the discussion, but students may hand it in before the due date. The Reflection is written as a STEM lab report/abstract format, using the Claim, Evidence, Reasoning, & Rebuttal (CERR) method, which is used within the Natural Sciences Dept. for all STEM classes. The CER method is the Scientific Method, which uses more ordinary language. So instead of making a hypothesis, students make a testable claim. I write CERR method, which includes the second "R", to remind students to include possible contradictions, challenges, and/or rebuttals to experiments they do, and the research they find reading scientific journals.
  ❏ This assignment is worth 5% of students' total grade, 2.5 % for the actual hunt and 2.5% for the reflection. I do not take off points for students that complete the hunt alone because they were absent. The penalty is having to do the assignment on their own time.

B. <u>Scavenger Hunt Assignment Reflection</u>
  ❏ This assignment introduces students to their campus and informs them of the many resources offered to them. Part of the hunt asks students to find places to sit or look at the artwork displayed around campus. The students' pictures show me that they enjoyed this exercise, despite dreading it at first. They often find that they do not know everything offered to them, like free swim lessons and daycare services.

It is important to follow-up with students to discuss the reflective lab report assignment. Many students miss the point that the hypothesis is "Can we find all the clues within 2 hours to learn about the resources my college has to offer me?". Students often just think it is just a team building exercise, or just a resource search. The reflective lab report forces students to think more in strategic/scientific terms. They needed tools (like the internet with MyLaguardia) and to plan how they were going to look for various clues within the 3 campus buildings within a certain time frame. They discover that they used the scientific method, without meaning to do so. This exercise is usually given by the 3rd lecture to encourage students to work in groups early in the semester. They learn about the challenges working with unfamiliar classmates. Despite their preliminary frustrations, most students enjoy the experience by the end of the hunt, which is apparent from the smiles in the pictures they upload to their e-Portfolios. The Scavenger Hunt is my favorite assignment because of its team building aspect. After this assignment, the climate in my classroom is warmer; students are more willing to do group activities during lecture.

❏ Acknowledgement: The idea to make this reflective assignment an explicit lab report, instead of implicit, was Karen Miller's at an Integrative Learning Charrette Workshop.

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Scavenger Hunt   Date: _____

Group Members Names:

1: _____   2: _____

3: _____   4: _____

Directions: This is a GROUP ACTIVITY. Make sure your group is with you for the entire activity. As part of this exercise, you should be ready to address the following:

- Have a copy of the clues to work through as you go around the campus.
- Plan your strategy for solving the answers within 2.0 hours.
- Use the college website and mobile app as tools to help you answer the questions.
- Use your mobile device (another tool) to take photos as instructed by the clues. You will need to upload photos to your individual ePortfolio at a later time. Make sure all group members have the necessary photos.
- Write down the names of all faculty and staff that assist you, include the department, or center, or office these individuals represent.
- Once you completed the Scavenger Hunt, go to Studio Hour/Lab to upload your pictures and this answer sheet. You may take a picture of the answer sheet and upload it, or scan it if there is a scanner in the lab room. Your group may use the same answer sheet.
- The grade earned by the group will be assigned to every member of the group, so please participate and keep each other on task.

Scavenger Hunt Clues:

1. Where on this campus can you print out a copy of these clues to help you complete this assignment? What are the guidelines for printing?

2. You need to sign up for financial aid or get more information regarding loans. Where do you go? Is it possible to run out of financial aid grants and loans before you earn a bachelor's degree? Is it possible to have financial aid grants and loans for graduate school?

3. If you need a FREE emergency Metro Card, need a FREE snack, or financial assistance beyond Financial Aid, where do you go? Group Photo outside this office!

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4. Where can you go for ePortfolio help, besides Studio Hour? Name 2 locations.

5. They offer services that can help you with Articulation Agreements, help you determine if a course you took at LAGCC will count toward your future degree. What is this office? Where are they located? What other (2-3) services do they offer? **Hint: Transfer**

6. Stop and smell the roses and take in the beautiful sights #1. Take a group photo in front of artwork you encounter along your journey. Where is it? Why did you choose this one? Have you noticed it before?

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7. Where do you go to speak to someone on campus about personal issues? What services does this center offer? Take a group picture outside this office and collect artifacts from this center, like a pamphlet.

8. This office reports, "It's a great opportunity to meet new people, develop as a leader, and grow as a participant of our dynamic campus community that dares to do more every day." This office can lead you to enjoy **campus life** more. Take a group photo outside the office and take an artifact. Describe what this office provides and the most unique or surprising thing you learned about this office.

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9. Go to MB09. What is this office and what services do they offer to LAGCC and how much
    money does it cost? Is there a cost for any of the services they provide?

10. This office offers immunizations and other health related services. What and where is this
    office? Name 3 other services they provide. Bring back an artifact.

11. Stop and smell the roses and take in the beautiful sights #2. Take a group photo in front of
    a relaxing spot you encounter along your journey. Where is it? Why did you choose this
    one? Have you noticed it before?

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12. Degree Works is not allowing you to log in, yet you have used it in the past. Where can a Student go to get Help from someone sitting at a Desk? List 2 other services they provide. Take a group photo in front of this office.

13. Where do you go to report suspicious or threatening behavior by another individual? Take a group picture outside this office.

14. Where can a math and science student get free tutoring on campus? Write down the names and locations of at least 2 centers. Take a Group Photo in front of **one** center.

15. This center offers help with

- Working out an outline or writing plan
- Paper organization
- Developing detailed, effective paragraph

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- Using quotes and citation appropriately
- Research, poems, personal statements, etc.
- This center will help students by appointment and also has walk-in hours

What and where is this center? Name 2 more services this center provides, **like the Career Office, but not the Career Office.**

16. Is there an exercise facility on campus? Where is this facility, what kinds of equipment are available to use, and how do you sign up? Do they offer free swim lessons? Take a group photo in front of this facility and bring back an artifact of this facility.

17. How many cafeterias are on campus? Where are these cafeterias?

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18. What place did you run into not on the list that you found interest in? Describe its service or function with 2-3 details.

As a time stamp take a picture of your completed answer sheet and text it to me
    @ 646-581-4294.

Now go to Studio Hour and Upload your answer sheet. Create in your Assignments Section "Scavenger Hunt Clue Answers". Your group may use the same answer sheet. Due by tonight by 11:59 pm.

First Year Seminar: Course: _____ and Section: _____
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<mark>Note: Completing this portion of the assignment is worth 2.5 points. There is an individual assignment that will follow that is also worth 2.5 points, the Scavenger Hunt Lab Report/Reflection, which will be discussed in class.</mark>

Group Members Names:

1: _____ 2: _____ 3: _____

Now that you have completed your Scavenger Hunt, or we might say collected your data, let us summarize and analyze our findings.

All responses to the questions should contain 2-3 details using complete sentences that are grammatically correct, without typos. Type your responses below the questions.

Introduction
What was the purpose/motivation of today's exercises? Why is this exercise important to you as a student, or any LAGCC student? Or, what was the question asked? Hint: Can we find all the clues within 2 hours?

What is your answer to your question? What is your **CLAIM**?

Methods & Materials
How did you conduct your Scavenger Hunt? Describe your plan and the actual steps you carried out to complete your plan. What was your strategy for completing this assignment on time? **(REASONING)**

Results/EVIDENCE
Were you able to complete the Scavenger Hunt within the timeframe given? If not, how many of the clues did you actually complete? State your error off from the target. If you found 17 of 18 clues, your error is 5.5%, which is pretty decent (1 - (17/18)) * 100.

What offices and locations do you think you will use and benefit from during your academic progress at LAGCC, and why?

Describe which office, or location was new to you? Do you think you may use or need its services in the semesters to follow? Why, or why not?

Did you learn anything new about a location that you were familiar with? If so, explain what new information did you learn?

Group Members Names:

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Of the sites you visited that you will not use, do you think you may pass on its information to a friend at LAGCC? If so, why? Or, if not, what is the overall value of this office/center's existence at the college, even if you do not intend to participate with, or pass the information along?

Conclusion

Based on your results, including your error, how well did you conduct your Scavenger Hunt? Do you feel more knowledgeable about YOUR campus? Do you feel more empowered about finding the answers and solutions to your questions and issues? Explain with details and examples.

What were some of the challenges you and your team faced during this event? How did you meet these challenges?

What strategies would you repeat, and change, if you had to do a similar project? Explain why for each strategy you would keep and omit?

Thinking back to the Habits of Mind and Understanding Myself, what strengths and skills have you improved completing this activity? What new skills do you find yourself developing? How can you use/apply these strengths to future assignments and projects?

Discussion

This Scavenger Hunt was intended to expand your knowledge about what your campus has to offer you, in terms of academic support, professional development, and your overall well-being. What further questions did this Scavenger Hunt raise for you? Are there any resources that you are interested with that were not on the list? How would you go about seeking the out this resource?

Acknowledgments
If anyone you met along your journey was particularly helpful to you, please state their name/s and how you were helped.

References
Include the campus website for completion

NSF 101-100 Spring 2019   Name: _____
Scavenger Hunt Lab Report Reflection   ePortfolio Due: _____ by 11:59pm

Group Members Names:

1: _____ 2: _____ 3: _____

Upload this assignment as a Word Doc, or PDF to your ePortfolio under Assignments.
Label this assignment "Scavenger Hunt and Lab Report Reflection".