**Designing and Delivering Information Skills Training Courses**

**Assignment One**

**Title**:

If it is on the Internet it must be true! – How do you evaluate web sites?

**Aim**:

To provide students with the knowledge and skills to critically evaluate the quality of websites.

**Objectives**:

The end of the course participants will be familiar with:

* the importance of evaluating a web site before using it.
* the key evaluation criteria to test the reliability of Internet sources.
* the makeup of a URL

**Learning outcomes:**

At the end of this session participants will be able to –

* Explain the importance of evaluating a web site
* Explain the make-up of a URL
* Determine the validity of the resources available on the internet
* Describe key evaluation criteria
* Evaluate web sites using key evaluation tools to better validate and qualify information for research and every day purposes

**Group Targeted**

The group I have targeted for this course is Certificate III in Electrotechnology. These students will need to undertake a number of research projects during the course of their studies. The move to online delivery and more Internet based research has raised the need for a different set of skills to obtain the necessary results. It became apparent after discussions with Program lecturing staff that students lacked the skills to critically evaluate websites. The ages of these students ranged from late teens to mid-forties. Students come from a variety of backgrounds and previous experience. There will be a cross section of computer skills from highly proficient to limited experience. The content of the material will be targeted to accommodate a proficient level of computer skills. Assistance will be given to those student will limited skills and peer assistance will be encouraged.

**Delivery method**

I intend to facilitate this session as a small group training course. The session will be a combination of facilitator led discussions, demonstrations and hands on activities with the aim to ensure that students can put into practice the theory learnt and have the opportunity to develop these skills.

I have selected small group training for the following reasons:-

* It accommodated class sizes that are already established by the Program area.
* Collaborative learning
* A less intimidating environment for shy learners.
* A manageable number of students. I can assist those students that require additional help with the activities on a one to one basis
* The set-up of the training room best suits small to medium groups as there are only 16 computers available.
* The design of the training room comfortably accommodates groups of up to 16 students.

**Course Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Key Points | Delivery method | Resources | Duration |
| 9:00- 9:05 | Welcome & Introduction. Explain the purpose of session and expected outcomes | Presentation | Data projector computer | 5 mins |
| 9:05 – 9:15 | Web site evaluation – why do we need to evaluate and what can be evaluated | Group discussion - brainstorming | White board and coloured markers  Show doggy website for example  Internet access | 10 mins |
| 9:15 – 9:20 | What is a URL | Presentation | Powerpoint presentation | 5mins |
| 9:20- 9:35 | Evaluation criteria – C.R.A.P. method  Currency, Reliability, Authority, Purpose | Presentation | Powerpoint presentation | 15 mins |
| 9:35- 9:45 | Using the C.R.A.P. method | Demonstration Discussion | Access to the Internet  List of “good” & “bad” web sites to evaluate | 10 mins |
| 9:45 – 10:00 | Web evaluation  Each group evaluates one area of the C.R.A.P. method and reports back to group | Group work  Group discussion | Whiteboard and markers | 15 mins |
| 9:45- 10:15 | Web evaluation | Individual practical exercises | Exercise sheet  Internet access  Computers | 15 mins |
| 10:15- 10:30 | Discussion on issues explored during the course  Summary –  Outcomes – what they have achieved  Feedback on session content and presenter | Group discussion | Course Evaluation Forms | 15 mins |

Due to time constraints the sessions will be limited to a maximum of 1.5 hours.