Transferable Skills: Providing Library Instruction in Second Life

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Freshman Seminar: COR 1203.023
What's Technology Got To Do With Me?
Learning Community Course
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- Freshman Seminars typically receive library tours and an orientation session to library resources
- Instructors for COR 1203.023 requested that this same information be provided through Second Life format

A few issues...
- No UTSA Library presence in Second Life
- Making connections between resources in Second Life and resources owned by the library
- Providing support for students throughout project
Objectives for typical library orientation:

- Acquaint students with Library resources, both physical and online
- Introduce students to librarians, staff
- Connect students with resources specific to class assignments

Objectives for Second Life library orientation:

- Introduce students to library resources in Second Life
- Provide students with specific resources to complete their freshman seminar projects, example: essay on common reading, *A Hope in the Unseen*
- Provide students with skills that could also be used in the UTSA library

Assignment:

Objectives: Create an assignment in Second Life that will allow students to become familiar with library resources that pertain to future COR 1203 topics. Students will have an orientation to Info Island and later have the chance to finish the assignment on their own.

Answer ten questions that require finding resources on Info Island that connect to class assignments. Submit results through note cards and snapshots.

Conclusions:

- Students enjoyed completing project on own time
- Students more aware of resources in Second Life
- Students had very positive interactions with guides in SL
- Importance of initial orientation to information searching and to virtual space
- Need for an additional session about UTSA Library resources
- Confusion between popular/scholarly resources
- Learning to search, rather than learning specific resources