When you ask me to do a workshop, I will ask to see your syllabus (to learn what you have discussed so far) and your assignment (to see the assignment that I will be supporting). Then I select from the following options. Optimally, we will plan the workshop together.

A successful workshop allows enough time for hands-on practice, a targeted assignment, different ways of approaching the material (learning styles), reflection and discussion or mini-presentations. We will probably only go over one or two skills or concepts in a 50-minute period.

Aperitifs

- Keywords – broader, narrower, matching keyword to resources
- Sources – what kinds are needed?

Entrees

Searching the Web

- Wikipedia – keywords, references, authority, bias
- Searching Google – tips for getting better results
- Evaluating Web resources for authority, bias, and currency
- Differentiating different types of Web resources (blog, academic journal, news, class wiki, etc.)

Searching Periodical Databases

- Differentiating between academic, popular, and scholarly/peer reviewed publications
- Constructing a successful search -- Boolean operators; limiting to full text
- Using a controlled vocabulary for better results (sometimes)

Searching the Library Catalog

- Keyword searching
- Subject headings
- Call numbers

À la Carte

- Annotated bibliographies
- Citing in MLA format and/or using Noodlebib
- Plagiarism
- Primary and secondary sources
- Reference materials