

# Online Tutorial for Music Research

## Final Report

The Online Tutorial for Music Research funded as an Information Fluency grant continues in progress. The tutorial was planned to contain two components: a tutorial for teaching the Music Index Online database and a tutorial for teaching the International Index to Music Periodicals (IIMP) database. Once the project was underway, we learned that the IIMP interface would be completely redone, so we focused our efforts on the Music Index Online Tutorial. Included in the tutorial is a section on turning a thesis statement into a search strategy, an overview of Music Index Online, instruction on Music Index Online Basic and Expert search modes with sample searches included, and a test of comprehension. The entire tutorial is database-driven using php and MySQL and includes an administrative interface that allows editing and addition of content through a web interface. Test statistics are gathered, including the percentage of times each question is guessed, and users from multiple campuses may log on and have their test scores e-mailed to professors and librarians on their home campuses. The tutorial is undergoing usability testing and further refinement based on what Dr. Beckford and Laurel Whisler learn during the upcoming (February 6, 2004) Workshop on Evaluating Information Fluency Projects. Work on the IIMP portion of the tutorial is slated for summer 2004. The Music Index portion of the tutorial has already been implemented as an information fluency component in the two music history courses at Furman, and there has been interest from other institutions as well, including the University of Hawaii.

Our team (Dr. John Beckford, Hampton Catlin, and Laurel Whisler) wishes to thank the Associated Colleges of the South for providing us with this opportunity to create an online tutorial for music research. We have learned a great deal individually about instructional design, tutorial design, and web-based learning tools, we have learned more about working as a team, and we are pleased to have created a resource to share with other music faculty, librarians, and students across the ACS.

Laurel Whisler

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