Stepping up to the plate: Experiences as first-time instructors of a Library Research in Context class

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Our special for the Fall 2011 semester is a tantalizing 1 credit hour undergraduate course served online that will fill your brain with Information literacy skills! It is specially designed for health sciences majors and prepared by two clinical education librarians.

Recipe:
- Begin with a search for student's needs
- Gather information literacy skills
- Divide ingredients into 9 modules
- Spice it up with active learning elements

Cook:
- Cook for about 17 weeks
- Have students sample the course every two weeks
- Adjust spices based on student feedback.

Instructors' Experience:
- Communicated clearly defined guidelines for assignments
- Developed realistic expectations for student involvement
- Learned that students...
  - May not mention problems with course management systems
  - Don't always comply with course guidelines

The experience was satisfying for the instructors and students. A robust stew of knowledge was consumed. Both instructors plan to teach the course again.

Student Experience:
- No evidence of food poisoning.
- Overall positive student feedback.
- Improved information literacy skills.

Putting it all Together!