

Aug 8th, 1:05 PM - 1:55 PM

# Narrative Identity as Creative Art: Exploring Homelessness and Citizenship Through an Academic Community Engagement Course

Michael Courtney

*Indiana University - Bloomington*, micourtn@indiana.edu

Erika Jenns

*Indiana University - Bloomington*, eljenns@indiana.edu

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Courtney, Michael and Jenns, Erika, "Narrative Identity as Creative Art: Exploring Homelessness and Citizenship Through an Academic Community Engagement Course" (2017). *Colloquium on Libraries & Service Learning*. 5.  
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# **NARRATIVE IDENTITY AS CREATIVE ART:**

**Exploring Homelessness and  
Citizenship Through an Academic  
Community Engagement Course**

**MIKE COURTNEY / ERIKA JENNS**



# **INNOVATION & RISK TAKING**

# STUDENTS

Librarians are situated to enable students to think about information as something communities create in conversation within a greater societal context and we have the ability to devote more time and resources into supporting localized creativity and discovery via our spaces and services.

# COMMUNITY

Sharing students' journeys as they explore library collections and archives, curating their own archive with the community, and reflecting on the significance of the lives and the art we preserve in library collections.



**W350**

**The Rhetoric of Home and Citizenship**

# TIERED APPROACH

Partnering with librarians allowed students to scaffold their research on their own disciplinary background knowledge, not just on the instructor's frame of knowledge.

# ASSESSING OUR OUTCOMES

“There’s so much risk.”

Students should have  
the freedom to fail.

The student is  
navigating their  
learning experience.





# **LIBRARIAN-FACULTY PARTNERSHIPS**

# WRAPPING THINGS UP

“Collaborations give us this kind of rich multiplicity of views and understanding.... We have a certain way of thinking and the other person can come to it from a totally different angle – from a totally different kind of space.”

\*“Humanities Collaborations and Research Practices,” by Harriett Green & Angela Courtney. Presented at DLF Forum, November 8, 2016

# EXTERNAL RESOURCES

"Like You, I Have a Story  
Worth Sharing"  
Documentary:

[https://youtu.be  
/J6oGMO7zZ08](https://youtu.be/J6oGMO7zZ08)



# THANK YOU!

MIKE COURTNEY/ERIKA JENNS

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