

Description of Research

never forget the emotions I experienced when first being assigned the Reflective Analysis assignment in my OT 501: Leadership in Occupational Therapy course. We were asked to perform a literature review on any occupational therapy topic of our choosing, starting with the year 1917, and continuing on to the present. A startling minimum of five articles for each decade was required. My instructor assured us she would not have assigned this paper if she knew we were capable of completing it. The truth is, alone, I do not think I could have. However, in collaboration with the staff and resources of the Weinberg Memorial Library (WML), I found that this research endeavor was one that I could tackle.

During our in-class library sessions with Bonnie Oldham, we were educated on the many resources our library has to offer students. She provided my class with insight on how to best define our search terms and when to use various databases so we could maximize our search results. Bonnie

reserve, a compilation that has accumulated over the years after students found them to contain literature that was extremely applicable to this assignment. These that provided me with a comprehensive background on the historical influences that have impacted my topic. This information would prove to be invaluable later on once my research was finished and I finally began writing my literature review.

On the dreaded day I found out I needed to use the Microfilm Reader, a librarian was able to walk me through the process of loading the film, fast-forwarding it, rewinding it, and finally printing the desired article. One day, I remember hitting a dead-end in my search for an article, finding out that the article was published in a journal that could not be accessed through the WML. For the earlier decades, an article that truly captured your topic was a rarity, and I remember anxiously hoping a librarian could help me. All hope was not lost when a librarian informed me that I could request the article through the ILLiad system and receive it within a few days, or sometimes even overnight, with no fee required. With this resource, I was convinced that virtually any article I desired could be

topic and assumption of your research task as if it was