

Assignment 1: Project Proposal and Goal Analysis

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Background description

This short paper discusses the design of an instructional lesson under development at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). The instruction is a short print-based instructional lesson which describes the procedures necessary for an NSU student to login to the library website, and use “Journal Finder” to search for an article given an APA formatted citation.

All NSU students should be familiar with the journal search processes available at Nova Southeastern. Unfortunately many undergraduate and graduate students have express the need to be able to find articles online but are unsure of how to use our system. Therefore this instructional lesson will be developed as a means of providing all students (including those at a distance) with the ability to find articles online.

Goal statement

Goal: Given an APA style citation, an NSU student will locate and download a full text journal article using NSU’s journal finder.

Learning domain: Intellectual Skill

Goal Analysis

A goal analysis was conducted with the above goal to determine what all learners should know and be able to do following this instruction. The learning domain was analyzed and categorized as an intellectual skill. Dick, Carey, and Carey (2009) describe goal analysis well and have suggested the Hierarchical Goal Analysis technique as a means of analyzing an intellectual skill like finding journal articles online. Note Figure 1 which shows the procedural steps involved in accomplishing the goal of the instructional lesson. This lesson and the procedures that follow should take no more than 30 minutes to accomplish.

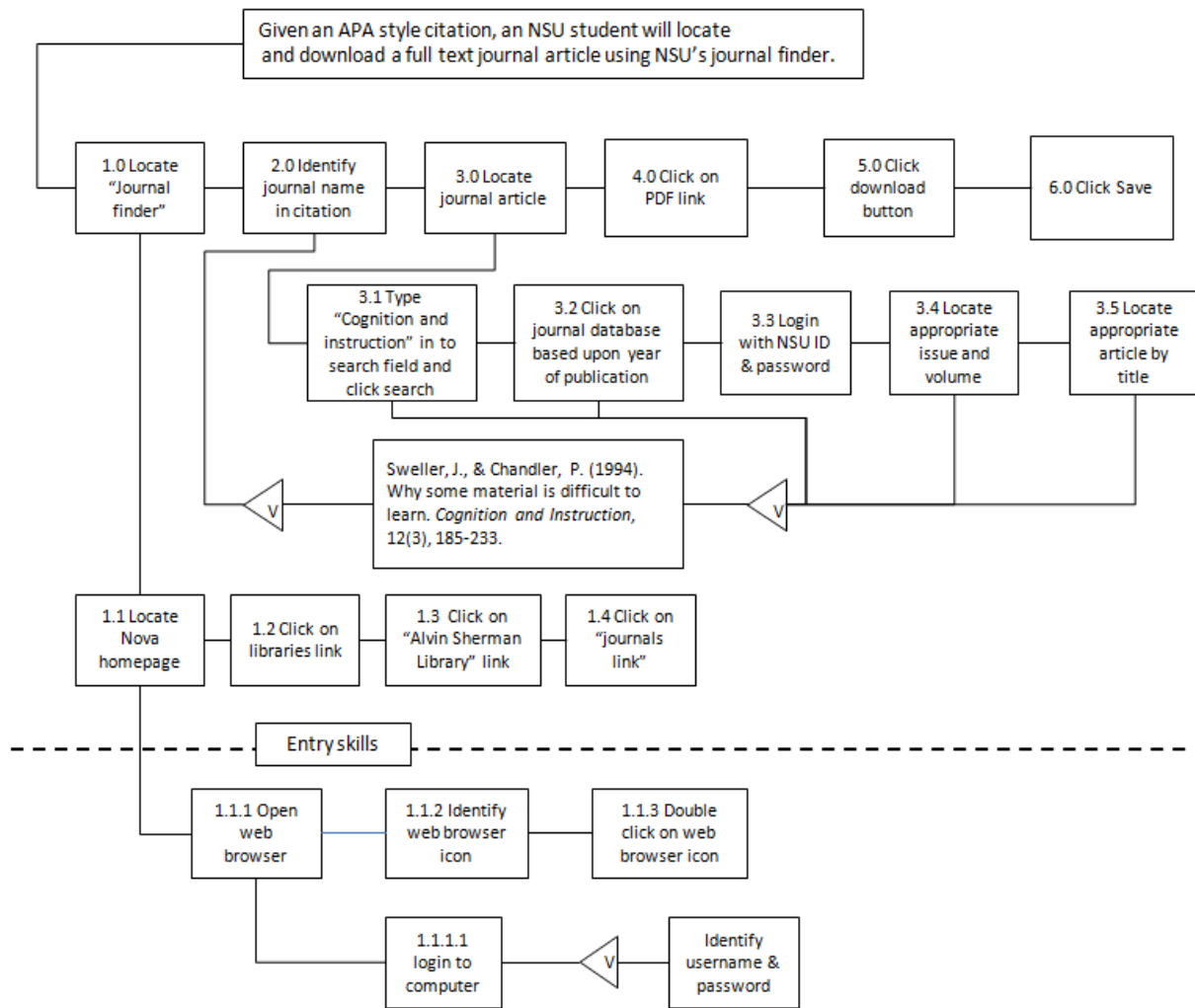


Figure 1. Hierarchical Goal Analysis of the “Journal finder” lesson

As this diagram shows there are two types of skills that the learner will be taught. They will be expected to already know the entry skills required for this procedure. So students must already know how to use a computer and open a web browser before attempting this instruction. In addition there are a series of subordinate skills that a learner will be able to perform after reviewing these instructional materials.

Once finding the NSU homepage, learners will use these materials to find and use Journal finder to locate an article using the NSU’s rich electronic database. They will do so by discerning the different parts of an APA style reference when given a reference. This instruction will guide them to find the journal name in

this reference, and then show them how to use Journal finder and the NSU database to find a journal. In addition, they will be able to locate the volume and issue number, in the reference to use that data to find the journal article. Finally, they will then be shown how to download a PDF file from within the Adobe Reader plugin interface.

References

Dick, W., Carey, L., & Carey, J. O. (2009). *The systematic design of instruction* (7th ed.). New York, NY: Allyn & Bacon.