Don’t teach students how to be archivists. Help them become researchers.

The problem: Current trends and work in archival instruction rely heavily on competency and skills-based instruction at the expense of teaching students how to conduct research independently.

The approach: This conceptual paper presents an instructional framework based on subject analysis of existing instruction literature and archival and motivational theory.

Keywords:
- Archives
- Self-determination theory
- Diplomats
- Student motivation
- Archival instruction
- Student-centered

Three main themes from archival diplomatics guide this framework:
- Progress from the specific to the general
- Context over content
- Emphasize relationships

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PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH

Diplomats
what to teach
SDT
how to teach
Motivating learning environment