Using what academics really think to develop our teaching offer:
mapping the learner journey at the University of Worcester
In my institution...

- **IL is well integrated in courses**: 2.6
- **Academics understand what librarians can teach**: 2.6
- **IL is seen as part of overall skills required**: 2.7
We knew we had some fantastic pockets of integrated IL but it wasn’t across the board
Level 4 - using Library Search
Level 5 - advanced search techniques
Level 6 - systematic reviews and referencing tools
The challenge – this menu is focused on library skills.

How can we address XYZ curriculum/student needs?
The learner journey encompasses:

The study, research and information skills that students bring to university with them and develop throughout the course of their degree programme.

And how are these articulated amongst course teams and to students?
Our manageable little project grew somewhat...
Drilling down into the data: what did staff tell us?

Agreement about the principle of independent learning – but not a lot else!
I expect students to be reasonably proficient in searching online (Googling) and probably to be able to find a book in a library. I would like it if [they] were able to use a small amount or secondary materials/ criticism in their assignments but many can't.

Students should know the difference between reference lists & bibliography; how to use the library/online resources; how to analyse an article; how to be critical in reading/translating it into their writing.
I would expect a publishable standard of writing from the most able students.

Some students still appear to not understand what the differences are between peer reviewed journals and magazines. Some still struggle to understand that what they think of as their original has to be referenced as someone has had that idea before them.
They should be able to reference 'to a point' and I still expect to give a lot of guidance with referencing at this stage.

This year is about criticality. Students should be able to use more than one source - contesting ideas, synthesizing, or showing opposing sides. Referencing is expected to be perfect by now.
Themes from research

• Learner independence & staff frustration
• Assumptions & expectations
• Confidence
• Transition, progression & developing skills in the curriculum
• Demographics
• Practitioner vs researcher tension
• ? Employability
• ? Technology
What have we done with this data?
Revisiting the menu

Level 4 – developing student confidence

Level 5 – making the transition to independence

@Dr_Sarah_P
“Serving” the menu
Developing a learner journey self-audit tool for course teams
To wrap up: it’s great progress, but we’re only halfway there...
Thanks for listening!
Any questions?

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Links

Project write-up

Learner journeys menu – will also be available from University of Worcester Library Services webpages, just as soon as the copy is written!
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