
Dream it, build it...and then what?

Creating a Notion database for sustaining online learning objects

KAUSHAR MAHETAJI & EMILY HECTOR

OISE LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES



Agenda

- **The context:** Asynchronous instructional materials
- **The challenge:** Maintaining relevance, accuracy, and currency
- **The tool:** Why Notion?
- **The solution:** OISE Library Online Learning Objects database

Context

- Proliferation of online learning objects since March 2020
 - Self-directed learning modules
 - Tutorial videos
 - Interactive knowledge checks
 - Assessment tools
- 30+ objects housed in different platforms and formats



Challenge

- Over 2+ years of creating objects, losing accuracy and relevance:
 - **Visual inconsistencies:** New library services platform; Changes to database interfaces; Updated functions of citation managers
 - **Inaccurate information:** COVID protocols / library closures no longer in place; Evolving services and supports
- Authorship and ownership of objects was shared between several team members and their devices

Context

● Challenge

Tool

Solution

Challenge

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How do we maintain these objects over the long-term, given their diverse format types, the wide-ranging content, and our limited staff capacity?

Context

● Challenge

Tool

Solution



Tool

- **Notion:** Collaborative platform for project management, task management, and note taking with support for database creation
 - **Advantages:** Customizable, centralized, collaborative database features; easy-to-use interface; free personal account; syncs across devices; cross-platform functionality; multiple database views; shareable links to databases; readily available tutorials for database creation
 - **Disadvantages:** No offline mode, cost (\$4/month) for more than 5 collaborators

Context

Challenge

● Tool

Solution

Solution

- A collaborative Notion database that allows us to:
 - **Maintain** an ongoing inventory of asynchronous learning objects;
 - **Evaluate** objects on a regular basis;
 - **Document** need for immediate or future updates;
 - **Share** workload amongst colleagues in a transparent, accountable fashion.
- Sortable properties include:
 - Name; Type of object; Current status; Review history; Locations and visibility

Context

Challenge

Tool

● Solution

 Add description

OISE Library Online Learning Objects

 Table +

Filter Sort  

[New](#) 

Aa Name	Description	Type of object	Status	Date Last Reviewed	Last Reviewed By	Primary Location	Primary Location URL
Library Resources for Applied Psychology and Human Development (APHD)	contains four visible modules: "Get to Know the Library," "Where to Search," "Strategic Searching," and "APHD Resources"	Course	TBD - needs review	November 21, 2022	Emily Hector	Quercus (Learning Ma	https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/207717
Get to Know the Library (APHD)	contains six visible pages: "Virtual Tour & Spaces," "TCards & UTORids," "OISE Library Electronic Collections," "OISE Library Print Collections," and "Research and Reference Services" contains one hidden page: "Services During COVID-19—OLD"	Learning module	TBD - needs review	November 24, 2022	Kaushar Mahetaji	Quercus (Learning Ma	https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/207717/modules#module_356225
Where to Search (APHD)	contains four visible pages: "The Information Ecosystem," "Selecting the Right Search Tool," "Discovering Databases," and "Linking with Google Scholar"	Learning module	TBD - needs review	November 16, 2022	Emily Hector	Quercus (Learning Ma	https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/207717/modules#module_356226

Table +

Type of object + Add filter

Type of object contains

Select one or more options...

- PDF Document
- LibGuide
- Learning module
- Tutorial Video
- Course
- Activity
- Interactive Visual

Filter by
"Type of object"

Filter Sort 🔍 ... New ▾

Sort by...

- Aa Name
- ☰ Type of object
- 📅 Date Last Reviewed
- ☰ Description
- ☰ Last Reviewed By
- ⋮ 7 more

Sort by
"Date Last Reviewed"

Board +

+ Add filter

Out of date 0	TBD - needs review 65	Under review 0	Up to date 0
+ New	Library Resources for Applied Psychology and Human Development (APHD) Get to Know the Library (APHD)	+ New	+ New

Change view to
"Board"



Thank you!

emily.hector@utoronto.ca | kaushar.mahetaji@mail.utoronto.ca