Use of LibGuides to Promote Government Information at the University of South Alabama
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FDL Conference, Oct. 21, 2015
Notes from live presentation

USA Marx Library Home Page:  http://www.southalabama.edu/departments/library/

Marx Library Home Page – Quick Links box
  → Course & Subject Guides
  → Government Documents

Shows the large number of LibGuides produced by USA librarians
  Subject/Topical LibGuides for Government Documents start with “Gov Docs” prefix
  Course LibGuides start with the course code (dept. and course #)
  Government Documents tabs within Course Guides—are not display here, but are listed under department home page
  Information LibGuides—are not listed here but are listed under dept. home page

Marx Library Home Page
  → Library Resources [drop-down box]
  → Government Documents
  → Government Documents (Home Page)

Information LibGuides  [“About Our Department”]
  Information-oriented LibGuides – usually about the department
  e.g., TRAINING RESOURCES LIBGUIDE
    Links to resources needed by dept. staff and student workers when working with documents
    Basic protocols for Gov Docs LibGuides include:
      Federal depository symbol on main/home page
      “My Profile” for who to contact regarding LibGuide—needs “email me” link
      Basic quick links boxes—e.g., Documents; Library; and About the Dept.
      --reusable boxes based on a template

Subject LibGuides  [“Subject Areas”]
  Broad subject-oriented LibGuides
  e.g., GOV DOCS: STATISTICS
  Use tabs to group like information together:  Divided into subject groups
  Home page of LibGuide—includes basic protocols
  Each tab/page includes:
    Agency Web Sites – links to web pages
    Web Resources – links to specific resources or group of resources
    Library Resources – links to SOUTHcat record
**Topic LibGuides**  ["Resources" → “Topic Guides”]

Specific subject-oriented LibGuides, many based from Dept. Displays

e.g., [GOV DOCS: FEDERAL RESERVE TURNS 100](#)  [Oct/Nov 2014]
   Use tabs to divide into types of resources or topics
   Home tab – general stuff: pictures, government-related databases, key web sites, key web resources, quick links to library resources

   e.g., [VIETNAM WAR, 1961-1975](#)  [Sept. 2015]
   Use tabs to divide into subject categories
   Within a tab/page, have
   **Web Resources**, which link directly to the resource, & indicates if available in library
   **Library Resources**, which link to catalog record (items not available on web)
   Another good example: [Vietnam Conflict](#) by Greta Marlatt (Naval Postgraduate School)

   e.g., [GOV DOCS: TUSKEGEE AIRMEN](#)  [includes non-documents materials]
   Tabs divided into Web Resources / Lib Resources: GovDocs / Lib Resources: Main / Video

**Course LibGuides**  ["Resources" → “Course Guides”]

Course-related LibGuides

e.g., [GEO 321: NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION](#)
   Majority of the guide contains government resources, but includes access to other collections

   e.g., [AN 340: NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES](#)
   Government Documents tab within the course guide
   Considered a Topical LibGuide so follows protocol for topic guides

**Searching for other LibGuides**

LibGuides Community (Springshare)  [http://libguides.com/community.php](#)
   Currently only version 1.0 LibGuides are indexed
   Many of the academic libraries have converted to version 2.0 so they are not indexed at this time

Google Search  [www.google.com](#)
   Only includes LibGuides from libraries that allow themselves to be indexed

Examples of excellent LibGuides:

University of Washington (Cass Hartnett?)  “Government Sources by Subject”
[http://guides.lib.uw.edu/friendly.php?s=research/govpubs-quick-links](#)

University of Michigan (Catherine Morse)  “Research Guides – Government, Politics & Law”
[http://guides.lib.umich.edu/sb.php?subject_id=57326](#)

University of Montana (Susanne Caro?)  “New Government Documents Research Guide”
[http://libguides.lib.umt.edu/c.php?q=275435](#)