

**Dawson College  
Practicum Site Description  
Winter 2015**

### **1. Student Activities/Project Description**

In an effort to make our library instruction sessions more interactive, memorable, and (dare we hope) entertaining, the student will be asked to develop a series of very brief learning activities, or quizzes, that can be used to “animate” the content delivered to students during library instruction sessions. This will involve identifying/selecting an easy-to-use, web-based survey/response platform, that is able to instantly display survey responses (<http://www.edudemic.com/online-quiz-tools/>).

In addition to the above project, the student will be asked to participate in the following professional tasks:

- Provide in-person reference support to students and faculty at the library reference desk;
- Respond to online chat reference requests using the “Ask-a-Librarian” widget;
- Support the librarians in delivering in-class library instruction sessions;
- Assist with the cataloguing of new library materials; and
- Help to validate the accuracy and currency of content on the library website.

### **2. Site Overview**

Dawson College is located in a historic building, in downtown Montreal, that was once the Mother House of the Congrégation de Notre Dame. The campus occupies an entire city block, between de Maisonneuve Blvd., Sherbrooke St., Atwater and Wood Aves, and is surrounded by twelve acres of green space. Dawson was the first English-language institution in Quebec’s CEGEP network when it opened its doors in 1969; and today it is the largest CEGEP with a population of approximately 10,000 day and evening students, enrolled in more than 50 programs of study. The Library supports the information needs of students across the disciplines with on-site and remote access to industry-leading electronic reference, eBook, and periodical collections, and more than 75,000 print and audiovisual titles, *all* searchable through the library’s Discovery Service. The library sits at the heart of the college, and is privileged to occupy two wings of the sixth floor, as well as the beautiful high-domed chapel, which altogether provide individual and group study spaces for more than 600 students at full capacity. In addition, the library is home to almost 100 networked computer terminals, four dedicated print stations, three photocopiers, and a collection of laptops and voice recorders available for short-term loan. Our librarians provide tailored, in-class library instruction sessions throughout the year at teachers’ request, and deliver continuous in-person support to students and faculty members both at the reference desk, and online via email and live chat, while the library is open.

### **3. Specific Requirements or Qualifications**

The student would ideally be enrolled in the Librarianship stream of the Masters of Library & Information Studies program, and have a particular interest in academic librarianship at the college level. He or she should be comfortable working with young adult students, and have some enthusiasm for library instruction within a classroom setting. The student will not be expected to

teach (unless he or she is keen), but will be asked to explore creative approaches to classroom teaching, so should have an interest in the process. For these purposes, he or she should be very comfortable exploring new web-based applications, and familiarity with HTML/CSS would be an asset. If the opportunity arises (and there is interest), some cataloguing may be assigned. Strong spoken and written English are required, and an 'intermediate' level of spoken French is preferred.