Pedagogical v. Pathfinder: Which is the Better LibGuide Design for Student Learning?

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Question
Which guide design (pathfinder or pedagogical) best supports student learning and self-efficacy outside of a classroom, instruction environment?

Methodology
Participants (n=22)

Rubric

Student Perceptions
- Good information on this guide, but I had less patience as an undergrad. [Pedagogical]
- I am not sure what to do. I don’t know how to use the research guide. I don’t know where to start. [Pathfinder]
- This is so cool! (Infographic of the research process) Well organized and easy to find what I look for. [Pedagogical]
- It seems that the research guide brings me to different sites but I am not sure what to do. It is confusing. [Pathfinder]

Results
Post-Survey
18 post-survey questions. All had a pedagogical advantage. Questions with the most significant differences:

Guide-Database Interaction
On average, Pedagogical used 6 resources; Pathfinder 3.

Rubric

Conclusion & Next Steps
Although there is no (statistically significant) performance difference, between the students who used Pedagogical versus Pathfinder-type guides, students using the Pedagogical guides reported a more positive experience and gained self-efficacy not seen in students using the Pathfinder-style guides.

Fall 2016, University Library LibGuides Task Force recommended all course guides be reconfigured in a pedagogical style, and subject guides have a more directed flow (e.g., numbering tabs, link to pedagogical resources).