

Information Literacy Student Learning Outcomes

ACRL Standard One: Define the Information Need and Research Topic

- Articulates information need in order to develop, focus, and revise a thesis or research question.
- Develops knowledge of various formats of information sources and how they are produced, organized and disseminated.
- Differentiates between scholarly and popular literature, primary and secondary research, and current vs. historical research.

ACRL Standard Two: Develop a Search Strategy; Locate and Retrieve Information

- Selects the most appropriate investigative methods or resources (interviews, fieldwork, lab experiments, library catalog, databases, Internet, etc.) in order to retrieve relevant information.
- Identifies keywords, synonyms, and controlled vocabulary in order to construct an effective search strategy.
- Uses Boolean logic, truncation, proximity indicators, and indexes in order to efficiently and effectively search for information.
- Understands bibliographic citations and call numbers in order to locate information.
- Retrieves information in various formats both online and in person, including primary research through interviews, surveys and experiments, and the use of services such as Circuit, Link+, and Interlibrary Loan.
- Documents sources using appropriate citation style guides in order to avoid plagiarism.

ACRL Standard Three: Evaluate Information; Incorporate Information into Knowledge Base and Value System

- Summarizes the content of information sources in order to identify the main points and knows when it is appropriate to paraphrase and use direct quotes.
- Evaluates information in order to determine its reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, timeliness, point of view or bias.
- Analyzes information in order to determine if it is an appropriate source for their current information need (scholarly or popular, primary or secondary, etc.)
- Sees relationships between concepts, investigates differing viewpoints, and participates in class discussions in order to incorporate new information into knowledge base and value system.

ACRL Standard Four: Use Information to Accomplish a Purpose

- Plans and creates a product or performance, using paraphrases and direct quotes, in order to clearly communicate the project to others.

ACRL Standard Five: Use Information Legal and Social

- Accurately and appropriately documents sources, and uses paraphrases and direct quotes in order to avoid plagiarism.
- Understands issues related to privacy and security, censorship, intellectual property and copyright in order to use information responsibly.
- Legally obtains, stores, and disseminates text, data, images and sound.

ACRL's *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*. Available online at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/standards/informationliteracycompetency.htm>