

INFORMATION LITERACY LEARNING OUTCOMES

Information literacy is the set of integrated abilities encompassing the reflective discovery of information, the understanding of how information is produced and valued, and the use of information in creating new knowledge and participating ethically in communities of learning.

[-ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](#)

Responsible Creation and Use of Information

Graduates will analyze and apply the legal and ethical limitations or considerations in the use of information, including but not limited to creator rights, the concept of the public domain, and privacy concerns. They will articulate their rights and accountabilities, and recognize the opportunity to act equitably, as both creators and stewards of information. They will value knowledge and information and demonstrate attribution. They will make mindful and critical choices about how they use information.

Communication

Graduates will demonstrate critical thinking through strong written and verbal communication skills. They will value the power and persistence of their professional and personal social media images. They will know how and where to disseminate their work.

Finding and Using Information

Graduates will design and refine their information needs and search strategies, recognizing that searching is strategic exploration. They will be proficient and fluent with technology and digital tools. They will evaluate the breadth, scope and variety of information resources and media. They will apply and transfer their information literacy skills to new situations and problems.

Critical Evaluation of Information

Graduates will question information gaps and conflicting information. They will have a healthy skepticism toward information, and recognize creator bias and the

implications of format. They will be empowered to investigate and question the traditional norms of authority.

Ethical and Civic Responsibility

Graduates will be able to examine and critique their own information privilege and their place in the information ecosystem. They will understand how and why some individuals and groups may be underrepresented or marginalized within systems that produce and disseminate information. They will advocate for and be engaged in discussions about information inequities. They will understand how the commodification of personal information and online interactions affect the information that people create and receive. They will collaborate and build cross-cultural connections and partnerships.

Characteristics of a Lifelong Learner

Graduates will be self-aware and proactive lifelong learners who move forward with knowledge and skill in managing and navigating the information landscape. They will balance critical and theoretical approaches with an awareness of the affective aspects of their learning, such as stress and time management, bias, and information overload. They will be nimble, brave, creative, joyful and curious learners.

Adapted from Western Libraries Information Literacy Learning Outcomes, May 2016