Information Literacy/Technological Competency – Sample Learning Outcomes

Faculty may opt to use the following sample learning outcomes to:

- Describe students’ development of information literacy skills/technological competency in specific disciplines by adapting outcomes as needed
- Identify learning experiences, projects, and assignments that provide opportunities to practice and enhance information literacy skills and technological competency
- Add components of information literacy/technological competency into evaluation of student work
- Create assessment tools for evaluating students’ information literacy skills and/or technological competency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information Literacy Components (from Arts &amp; Sciences College Core Curriculum)</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes BASIC</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes ADVANCED</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Determines and articulates a need for information                           | • Recognizes need for information to support ideas and opinions  
  • Determines type and amount of information needed based on scope of project/assignment  
  • Seeks librarian assistance when needed |
| Frames the research question                                                | • Uses a variety of background sources to learn more about topic  
  • Develops a research question or statement to describe topic  
  • Identifies key concepts and terms related to information need |
| Selects resources appropriate to specific research needs                   | • Understands that information is available in various formats  
  • Identifies a variety of sources appropriate to specific information need  
  • Uses online catalog to |
|                                                                            | • Articulates research question or statement  
  • Uses research question to frame search strategy  
  • Revises or refines the research question based on search results |
|                                                                            | • Identifies discipline-specific resources  
  • Distinguishes between general and subject/discipline specific online databases  
  • Selects databases based |
| Constructs and refines search strategies to locate, access, and retrieve information efficiently | Identifies keywords and synonyms to facilitate search  
• Constructs a basic search strategy in an online database  
• Uses limits to narrow a search  
• Locates items within the library  
• Accesses, downloads, or prints articles from online databases | Identifies key words, synonyms and related terms to facilitate search  
• Revises search strategy to improve search results when necessary  
• Differentiates between keyword and subject searching  
• Uses Boolean operators and truncation in online searches  
• Knows how to request materials not owned by the library through interlibrary loan |
|---|---|---|
| Evaluates resources and content critically | Understands the importance of evaluating information sources  
• Evaluates the credibility of information sources based on criteria including authority, accuracy, bias, timeliness, reliability  
• Identifies types of works represented by citations | Identifies features of credible information sources  
• Evaluates content based on scope of assignment or project  
• Selects and evaluates discipline-specific resources |
| Understands the legal and ethical standards of information access and use | Selects and uses documentation style to cite sources appropriately  
• Understands what constitutes plagiarism and avoids plagiarizing  
• Complies with University honor code and [Appropriate Usage Policy](#) for networking/computing | Uses bibliographic software to manage sources  
• Selects and uses citation style appropriate to assignment/discipline  
• Demonstrates understanding of appropriate use of copyrighted material |

- find books and other materials  
  - Uses online databases to retrieve articles from journals, magazines, and newspapers  
  - Identifies popular and scholarly sources  
- on relevancy to topic  
  - Distinguishes between primary and secondary sources

- Identifies keywords and synonyms to facilitate search  
- Constructs a basic search strategy in an online database  
- Uses limits to narrow a search  
- Locates items within the library  
- Accesses, downloads, or prints articles from online databases

- Identifies key words, synonyms and related terms to facilitate search  
- Revises search strategy to improve search results when necessary  
- Differentiates between keyword and subject searching  
- Uses Boolean operators and truncation in online searches  
- Knows how to request materials not owned by the library through interlibrary loan

- Understands the importance of evaluating information sources  
- Evaluates the credibility of information sources based on criteria including authority, accuracy, bias, timeliness, reliability  
- Identifies types of works represented by citations

- Identifies features of credible information sources  
- Evaluates content based on scope of assignment or project  
- Selects and evaluates discipline-specific resources

- Selects and uses documentation style to cite sources appropriately  
- Understands what constitutes plagiarism and avoids plagiarizing  
- Complies with University honor code and [Appropriate Usage Policy](#) for networking/computing

- Uses bibliographic software to manage sources  
- Selects and uses citation style appropriate to assignment/discipline  
- Demonstrates understanding of appropriate use of copyrighted material
**Uses technology effectively to organize, communicate, and present information to support academic work.**

- Seeks assistance for technology questions
- Uses technology to access, manage, and communicate information
- Uses course management system effectively
- Selects and uses technology based on project needs and intended audience
- Creates documents and/or presentations using variety of technologies

**Suggested assignments** to enhance the development of information literacy skills and technological competency:

- Create annotated bibliography
- Identify parts of a citation
- Track a trail of references—describe types of sources and/or retrieve sources
- Find material within the library
- Access scholarly article online
- Access newspaper article online
- Evaluate website
- Evaluate article
- Prepare presentation using various technologies (e.g. Web, video, podcast, digital images, specialized software, etc.)

Please contact Nancy Frazier, Instructional Services Librarian, or your department’s library or ITEC liaison for more information about enhancing students’ information literacy skills and technological competency.

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*N. Frazier—1/2009*