

Information Literacy & Instruction Guidelines for PBCC

Philosophy

More than ever before, students can be overwhelmed and challenged by the vast amount of information that is now available. It is critical for each individual to be competent in seeking information that is available in any format, be able to critically evaluate information, and be able to effectively utilize the information that is found. Such skills are recognized as information literacy skills and will be crucial for students' achievement of academic, professional, or life-long learning goals. **(Adapted from various sources, including the “Philosophy Statement” of LIS 2004, *Introduction to Internet Research*).**

Definition of Information Literacy

Information Literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate information in many formats, evaluate, and effectively use the needed information in order to become independent life-long learners.

(Adapted from American Library Association/Association of College & Research Libraries).

Expected Student Outcomes for Competency in Information Literacy

The information literate student is able to recognize when information is needed, have the ability to locate information in many formats, evaluate and effectively use the needed information in order to become an independent life-long learner.

All Palm Beach Community College students (in A.A., A.S., and A.A.S. programs) will make significant progress to completing the following competencies:

- Determine the nature and extent of the information needed.
- Access needed information effectively and efficiently.
- Evaluate information and its sources critically and incorporate selected information into his or her knowledge base and value system.
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
- Understand many of the ethical, legal and socio-economic issues surrounding the use of information.
- Access and use information ethically and legally.

Methods of Assessment:

1. Students will complete one of the following courses with a grade of C or better: ENC 1102, LIS 2004, or an Honors course.

OR

2. Students demonstrate competencies through other courses or online tutorial that are identified by the program manager to satisfy the outcomes listed above.

From ["Palm Beach Community College Competency Statements"](#)

Resources

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- Cornell University Libraries. "Research Guide for History 400: Honors Seminar." 13 February 2001. 27 March 2001. <<http://www.library.cornell.edu/okuref/histhonors.html>>. Example of information literacy module in a general education course.
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- Shapiro, Jeremy J. and Shelley K. Hughes. "Information Literacy as a Liberal Art." <<http://www.educause.edu/pub/er/review/reviewarticles/31231.html>>.
- Snively, Loanne and Natasha Cooper. "The Information Literacy Debate." *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. January 1997.
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- SUNY Farmingdale. "Information Literacy at Farmingdale." 1999. 11 December 2000. <<http://www.farmingdale.edu/CampusPages/ComputingAndLibrary/Library/infoa.html>>.
- Tompkins Cortland Community College. *Information Literacy Plan: Tompkins Cortland Community College*. 14 March 2000. 29 June 2001. <<http://www.acad.sunyccc.edu/library/infolit/plan.htm>>.
- U. of Arizona Libraries. *General Education Information Competency Initiative Brochure*. <http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/library/subject_specialists/subjspec.html>.
- Ulster Community College (SUNY). Library: Information Literacy Program. 30 October 2000. <<http://www.sunyulster.edu/library/infolit.html>>. Note: "Information Literacy continues to be a major initiative on the UCCC campus. LIB111 (Information Literacy) is a graduation requirement for all associate degree programs. It is a prerequisite or corequisite for ENG 102, 172 and 227. Students will demonstrate necessary information literacy competencies by completing this one credit course").
- WAAL [Wisconsin Association of Academic Libraries] Information Literacy Committee. 1 February 2001. 21 June 2001. <<http://www.sunyconnect.suny.edu/ili/final.htm>>.
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