

Information Literacy In UNIV101

Universities recognize that they have a responsibility to graduate students who are prepared for lifelong learning. A critical aspect of lifelong learning is information literacy, the ability to locate, manage, critically evaluate, and use information for problem solving, research, and decision making. Because the college research environment is quite different than the high school research environment, it is important to give first year students a basic foundation of information literacy to help them through this transition. Below are the information literacy goals set out for the first year, and UNIV101 in particular. It is not expected that students will master these goals in one semester, but they should be introduced to each of them and have opportunities to use them in real applications so they can build on them throughout their college education.

Goals

1. Students can develop a focused topic or question and choose the appropriate source(s) from the variety of information choices available to them in college to answer their information need
2. Students are familiar with and comfortable navigating the physical library and the Library ReSEARCH Station
3. Students can construct an effective search statement
4. Students can interpret a bibliographic citation and locate the information they have found, whether it is linked to the citation, in another database, in the library, or available through interlibrary loan
5. Students can evaluate the worth of information they find against their information need based on currency, relevance, authority, accuracy and purpose
6. Students understand what constitutes plagiarism and know how to use information ethically

How To Achieve These Goals

Librarians

A librarian will teach two classes focused on information literacy. One will be an introduction to the world of academic research and choosing the right information tool for the information need. The 2nd class will focus on finding journal articles and distinguishing scholarly from popular journals.

Please schedule the librarian guest lectures as soon as possible so we can reserve the room. The classes can be consecutive or not, that is your call, and we have no preference. E-mail derickson@csuchico.edu (after Aug.1) or sblakeslee@csuchico.edu (anytime) to reserve the Library Education Classroom (#226) for the days and times you need.

UNIV101 Instructors

Due to time constraints, the librarians will not be teaching about evaluating information or about plagiarism and the ethical use of information. Many of you have covered these topics previously, but if you are not comfortable teaching one or both of these topics I would be happy to work with you. Also, please try to reinforce the skills and concepts introduced in the library lectures throughout the semester. I am more than happy to work with any of you to review your assignments and look for ways to promote information literacy throughout the course more effectively.

Thanks and I look forward to working with all of you next semester.

Sarah

