

INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS FOR COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS



GENERAL:

- **Know what they don't know**
- **Know who to ask for research help**
- Understand library jargon, ex. "peer-reviewed"

RESEARCH PROCESS & QUESTIONS:

- Follow research process steps, ex. Big 6
- **Estimate time required for research, ex. ILL**
- **Define a good research question or topic**

SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION:

- Find different formats of information
- **Understand that web search engines rarely locate college-appropriate information**
- **Distinguish between the library's catalog and online databases**
- **Utilize online research databases**
 - **Conduct effective searches using keywords**
 - **Use alternate search terms**
 - **Boolean connectors, ex. AND, OR**
 - Controlled vocabulary, subj. headings
 - Field searching, ex. author, title
- **Interpret search results**
- **Find full text of articles**
- Find books using Library of Congress (LC) classification, not Dewey
- Use reference books in the library to find background information
- **Regroup when first attempts to find resources don't work, ex. try different database**

EVALUATING INFORMATION:

- **Weed through search results to find adequate and accurate information**
- **Distinguish between popular and scholarly articles**
- **Disregard inadequate or inaccurate information**
- **Critically evaluate web resources**

USING INFORMATION:

- **Synthesize, communicate, and argue a thesis using evidence**
- **Analyze data and statistics**
- Represent, analyze, and critique the ideas of others ethically
- **Write without plagiarizing (accidentally or otherwise), ex. use in-text citations, properly paraphrase & quote**
- **Cite sources properly using multiple citation styles, ex. APA, MLA**
- **Differentiate between types of citations (books, chapters, articles, websites, etc.)**

**SO THEY'RE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL—
ARE THEY READY FOR COLLEGE?**

ASU Libraries <http://lib.asu.edu> and [Metro Tech Library](http://metro.tech.library)

Adapted from P. Owen & M. Oakleaf (2008)

"Using Evidence to Bridge the 12-13 Gap" OELMA 2008 Conference

<http://www.infowen.info/teacherlibrarian.html>

*Bolted statements indicate vital skills needed in the first year