

Student Learning Outcome (SLO) #5: Demonstrate the ability to retrieve, interpret, evaluate, and use information.

Definition: Information literate students possess 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.

This SLO is met in General Education FYS: Discovering College and A: Communicating with and About the World.

	Performance Rating Levels			
Ability: (Skill #)	4 (Excellent)	3 (Good)	2 (Fair)	1 (Poor)
A. Ability to retrieve and evaluate information				
(1) Effective definition of a question, topic, or line of argument:	Question, topic, or argument is effectively defined and focused.	Question, topic, or argument is defined, but unfocused.	Question, topic, or argument is poorly defined and unfocused.	There is minimal effort at defining the question, topic, or argument.
(2) Accessing of information:	Uses effective, well-designed search strategy to access information.	Uses complex search strategy to access information.	Uses basic search strategy to access information.	Minimal use of a basic search strategy to access information.
(3) Recognition of information authority, its use, and credibility:	Recognizes different types of authority (and recognizes that some authoritative content can be packaged informally) and their use to determine credibility.	Recognizes different types of authority and their use to determine credibility.	Recognizes different types of authority and their relationship to credibility.	Minimal recognition of different types of authority, or their relationship to credibility.
(4) Synthesis of information:	Recognizes and addresses gaps or weaknesses in gathered information; synthesizes ideas gathered from multiple sources	Recognizes gaps and weaknesses in gathered information; identifies similar ideas in related sources	Recognizes gaps or weaknesses in gathered information, makes connections between related sources, but does not synthesize ideas	Accepts gaps or weaknesses in gathered information; does not make connections between sources
B. Ability to interpret and use information				
(5) Understanding of ethical and legal issues related to information use or creation:	Demonstrates a clear understanding of ethics and legality of information use.	Demonstrates some understanding of ethics and legality of information use.	Demonstrates knowledge of ethics and legality of information use.	Demonstrates minimal knowledge of ethics and legality of information use.

(6) Clarity and depth of conclusions from analysis and interpretation of information:	Draws reasonable conclusions based on the analysis, interpretation and synthesis of information from multiple sources to address question, topic, or line of argument with clarity and depth.	Draws reasonable conclusions based on the analysis, interpretation and synthesis of information from multiple sources to broadly address question, topic, or line of argument.	Draws some conclusions based on the analysis, interpretation and synthesis of information from sources to address question, topic, or line of argument.	Draws few or no conclusions and demonstrates minimal analysis, interpretation and synthesis from sources to address question, topic, or line of argument.
(7) Appropriate use of citation or attribution of information source(s):	Consistent and appropriate use of attribution or citation throughout to support question, topic, or line of argument with clarity and depth.	Appropriate attribution or citation used most of the time to support question, topic, or line of argument with clarity.	Appropriate attribution or citation used some of the time to support question, topic, or line of argument.	Makes little effort at using attribution or citation to support question, topic, or line of argument.

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