

Critical Information Literacy by Course Level

If critical information literacy instruction were integrated across a department's course structure, this is what students *should know how to do* by approximate course level.

Beginner (100-200)

1. Identify free and fee-based resources
2. Explain the differences between free and fee-based resources
3. Access the library's databases
4. Ask an expert for help as needed
5. Use keywords
6. Identify parts of a bibliographic record
7. Limit search results
8. Confirm whether popular/scholarly source is required for assignment
9. Explain audience and purpose of scholarly sources
10. Choose a topic that will have scholarly material available.
11. Capture all citation elements of each source chosen
12. Use citation generators judiciously

Intermediate (300-400)

1. Explain why some information is not free
2. Use the Interlibrary Loan service
3. Use truncation
4. Use phrase searching
5. Identify common features of an empirical article
6. Explain the peer-review process
7. Identify the literature as the body of scholarly work in a particular discipline
8. Identify granular types of publications (news, entertainment, trade, professional, special interest, factual/reference).
9. Select a book, encyclopedia, newspaper article, etc according to their information need.

10. Identify the editorial processes of various types of publications.
11. Find a scholarly article's Digital Object Identifier
12. Identify different types of citations (book, chapter, article, etc.) in a reference list/bibliography

Advanced (500 +)

1. Differentiate between open access and traditional publishing models
2. Use Boolean searching
3. Use controlled vocabulary
4. Follow citations
5. Distinguish different types of research (quantitative, qualitative, meta-analysis, lit review, theoretical, applied)
6. Scrutinize the origins/funding/etc. of a publication to determine bias
7. Use citation management software