Information literacy is an intellectual framework encompassing a set of abilities requiring individuals to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."\(^1\) It forms the basis for lifelong learning and is common to all disciplines, all learning environments, and all levels of education. At the lower division level, it enables learners to explore basic resources and research techniques, and begin assuming greater control over their own learning. The following attributes of an information literate student at the Lower Division level have been adapted from the Association of College and Research Libraries' *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education* (2000). Available at: www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlstandards/informationliteracycompetency.htm

The information literate student:

1. **defines and articulates** the need for information
2. **determines** the nature and extent of the information needed
3. **identifies** a variety of types and formats of potential sources for information
4. **constructs and implements** effective search strategies
5. **accesses** needed information effectively and efficiently
6. **retrieves** information online and in person using a variety of methods
7. **evaluates and refines** search strategies as necessary
8. **articulates and applies** criteria for evaluating both the information and its sources
9. **determines** whether the initial query should be revised
10. **uses** information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose and **communicates** the results of research effectively to others
11. **understands** that there are ethical, legal and socio-economic issues surrounding information and information technology

12. **acknowledges** the use of information sources through standard citation and attribution practices