

Building Students Skills in Informational Literacy

Information Literacy is a Competency for all Students

Information Literacy is one of Cal State East Bay's [Institutional Learning Outcomes](#). Our students build their competency in information literacy throughout their undergraduate learning experiences in their major, general education, and breadth courses.

Information Literacy Rubric a Tool to Build Competency

The ILO Information Literacy rubric was developed and implemented by CSUEB faculty across disciplines as a tool to assess the extent to which students are thinking critically about how they seek out and evaluate the information they use for various purposes. The rubric category of *search* examines the use of appropriate search strategies to explore information sources. The rubric category of *evaluate* examines the degree that sources are credible and relevant.

Sample Assignment Instructions

Some or all of the sentences below could be added to an existing assignment to help students reflect on their search and evaluation choices when exploring information sources.

Category being assessed	Assignment Instruction Examples
Search	<i>Example 1:</i> Describe the specific process you used to identify diverse sources of information that were appropriate for your question and/or topic. <i>Example 2:</i> Share the search strategy you created for finding information sources relevant to your question and/or topic: discuss how you developed search terms, chose search tools (such as the Library catalog, Google Scholar, library article databases, experts in the field, etc.), and used search techniques to find information sources.
Evaluate	<i>Example 1:</i> How did you identify information from credible sources on the question and/or topic you were investigating? How did you know that the information sources you found were credible? <i>Example 2:</i> How relevant is the content of the information sources you found with your question and/or topic?

Revised ILO Information Literacy Rubric

Cal State East Bay Revised ILO Information Literacy Rubric Senate approved 10-11-22/President approved 11-9-22				
Description: Information literacy is the ability to explore information through effective search strategies. Students evaluate diverse sources and provide justification of the relevance and credibility, given the context of their information need.				
Criteria/category	4	3	2	1
Search Use of search strategies to explore information sources. <i>(e.g. search terms, truncation, filters, choice of database and/or library resources)</i>	Appropriate search strategies used to explore information sources.	Mostly appropriate search strategies used to explore information sources.	Minimally appropriate search strategies used to explore information sources.	Does not use appropriate search strategies.
Evaluate Evaluates gathered sources for relevance and credibility <i>(e.g. peer-reviewed, author expertise, context)</i>	Thoroughly evaluates sources.	Adequately evaluates sources.	Minimally evaluates sources.	Does not evaluate sources.