INFORMATION LITERACY OUTCOMES FOR MAJOR-SPECIFIC INSTRUCTION

In addition to reinforcing the outcomes of the first-year Information Literacy experience, major-specific instruction should foster the following outcomes in fulfillment of General Education goal #4: to identify, access, and evaluate information, and to use information responsibly.

Identify

Students will be able to

- Recognize that knowledge is organized into disciplines that influence the way information is produced, organized, and disseminated.
- Understand how information is formally and informally produced, organized, and disseminated in the specific discipline of the major.
- Identify standard reference, scholarly, and web sources appropriate for the discipline.

Access

Students will be able to

- Develop a research plan appropriate to the investigative methods in the discipline.
- Locate standard reference, scholarly, and web sources appropriate for the discipline.
- Select discipline-appropriate controlled vocabulary, keywords, synonyms, and related terms to construct a search query.
- Differentiate between primary and secondary sources for the discipline and recognize how each is used.
- Use raw data from primary sources to construct information.
- Interpret bibliographic information in order to retrieve materials from the library and other sources.
- Locate and use scholarly style guides that are appropriate for the chosen discipline.

Evaluate

Students will be able to

- Use selected criteria to determine whether the information contradicts or verifies information used from other sources in the discipline.
- Evaluate, examine, and select information for quality, accuracy, authority, and reliability.

Use Responsibly

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate ability to use scholarly conventions of the discipline, including appropriate attribution and documentation.
- Demonstrate an understanding of copyright and fair use of copyrighted material.