

Information Competency in Your Classroom

Here are a few ways to incorporate information competency into your assignments:

- Locate an article in a popular magazine, then find a scholarly article on the same subject. Compare the two articles for content, style, bias, audience, etc.
- Analyze the content, style, and audience of three journals in a given discipline.
- Read an editorial and find facts to support or disprove it.
- Contrast journal articles or editorials from a conservative publication and a liberal publication.
- Evaluate a web site based on specific criteria.

Want more? Librarians are also specialists in one or more subject areas, & can offer support in designing assignments, integrating information competencies into course objectives, and other forms of collaboration.
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/docs/colspec.html>

<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/>

Promoting Information Competency at UCSB



What is Information Competency?

Information competency is the ability to identify an information need, locate information efficiently, evaluate information, and use information effectively.

Do your students...

- Turn in papers that are less well-researched and carefully reasoned than you expected?
- Feel overwhelmed and uncertain when required to do research?
- Avoid using the library?
- Expect to find all their research material on the Web?
- Get confused when you ask them to use scholarly journals rather than popular magazines?

A person who is information competent knows...

- How to think critically and creatively about research
- How to search for information
- How to find the most relevant information
- How to evaluate information from the Web and elsewhere
- How to examine the ethical issues surrounding information use
- How to apply information technology skills as needed
- When and where to ask for help

How we can help...

The UCSB Libraries offer a variety of information competency services, including:

- Subject guides to library resources
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/subj/subject.html>
- Online Tutorial, "Library 101"
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/libinst/lib101/>
- Orientations for new students & faculty
- Course integrated instruction in information research, presented either in your classroom or at the library.
- Interdisciplinary 1: A one-unit P/NP course designed to teach undergraduates the basics of information research.
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/classes/int1/int1.html>
- Interdisciplinary 100: A two-unit course designed for upper division students. Recommended for students enrolled in courses with research projects.
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/classes/syllabus.html>
- Chemistry 184/284 Chemical Literature: A two-credit hour course for graduate and upper division undergraduate students. This course introduces students to the literature of chemistry.
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/classes/chem184/>

How to Reach Us:

To schedule a library lecture, contact the Collection Specialist in your area:
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/docs/colspec.html>

or submit this form: <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/libinst/instruct.html>

Questions? Contact Jane Faulkner at faulkner@library.ucsb.edu or 893-5086.

Writing Program faculty may contact Sherri Barnes, 893-8022 or barnes@library.ucsb.edu