

H. Raymond Danforth Library

Bridges to Learning First Year Seminar

Assessment of Information Literacy Instruction

Fall 2012

The Learning Outcomes as identified by the Association for College and Research Libraries are:

1. The information literate student determines the nature and extent of the information needed.
2. The information literate student accesses needed information effectively and efficiently.
3. The information literate student evaluates information and its sources critically and incorporates selected information into his or her knowledge base and value system.
4. The information literate student, individually or as a member of a group, uses information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
5. The information literate student understands many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and accesses and uses information ethically and legally.

The library developed a set of online tutorials designed to address the above learning outcomes. The Bridges instructors were asked to assign the tutorials during the fall semester 2012. A few sections participated in the online tutorials and some sections did their own version. The five learning outcomes from the ACRL Standards were assessed for skill achievement through a final quiz.

The quiz was designed with 20 questions grouped to assess each learning outcome. The quizzes were graded with an average percentage calculated for each question then an average of the questions for each learning outcome was calculated.

Out of 18 sections, 6 sections were used to calculate results, 51 students responded.

Students achieved average scores of:

62% on determining the nature and extent of information needs,

62% on finding information

55% on evaluating the information found

64% on using the information

76% on the ethical and legal use of information

The library would like to benchmark to scores of 75% on all five outcomes. Improvements include revisions to the online tutorials, addition of self assessment quizzes, hands on assignments for homework, final assessment of skills achievement. Librarians will work with the faculty to implement the program improvements.