

# Hartnell College Library

Reference Department 831-759-6078/755-6872  
<http://www.hartnell.cc.ca.us/library/>

## Who Needs To Be Information Literate? Everyone!

### WHAT IS “INFORMATION LITERACY?”

According to the Association of College and Research Libraries and the American Association of Higher Education,

#### An information literate individual is able to:

- Determine the extent of information needed.
- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently.
- Evaluate information and its sources critically.
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
- Understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and access and use information ethically and legally.

### WHY DO I NEED TO BECOME “INFORMATION LITERATE?”

These skills are increasingly important because of the amount of information available and the variety of sources providing information. Information literacy is necessary to a formal education and also forms the groundwork for lifelong learning.

### HOW DO I APPLY “INFORMATION LITERACY?”

#### The process of information literacy or information competency is as follows:

- Identify the question.
- Select the appropriate sources of information.
- Critically examine the information and sources.
- Choose the best information.
- Make this information part of your own understanding.
- Complete your goal in looking for the information.
- Obtain and use information in an ethical and legal manner. Obey copyright laws, cite information used, and use technology appropriately.

Being information literate is having the ability to define an information need, to gather data or information, to select and organize it into useful knowledge. This skill of finding, evaluating, and synthesizing information may be used in any area of study throughout one's life. It helps us to make wise decisions and has been called the basis of democracy.

Information →	Knowledge →	Wisdom
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## Books

Barclay, Donald. Teaching Electronic Information Literacy: A How-To-Do-It Manual.  
New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1995.  
Call number Z699. T34 1995.

Small, Ruth V. and Marilyn P. Arnone. Turning Kids On To Research.  
Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 2000.  
Call number LB1065 .S57 2000eb (Online).

Thompson, Helen M. Fostering Information Literacy: Connecting National Standards,  
Goals 2000, and the SCANS Report. Englewood, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 2000.  
Call number ZA3075 .T47 2000eb (Online).

## Web Sites

"Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education: Standards,  
Performance Indicators, and Outcomes." Association of College & Research  
Libraries. 18 Jan. 2000. American Library Association.  
<http://www.ala.org/acrl/ilstandardlo.html>.

"Information Competency." Walter W. Stiern Library. California State University  
Bakersfield. 7 Aug. 2000. <http://www.lib.csub.edu/infocomp/infocomp.html>.

Rose, Richard et al. "Information Competency in California Community Colleges."  
Publications. 2002. Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.  
[http://www.academicssenate.cc.ca.us/Publications/Papers/Info\\_competency.html](http://www.academicssenate.cc.ca.us/Publications/Papers/Info_competency.html).

Smith, Drew. "Directory of Online Resources for Information Literacy: Definitions of  
Information Literacy and Related Terms." School of Library and Information  
Science. 7 Jun. 2000. University of South Florida, Tampa.  
<http://www.cas.usf.edu/lis/il/definitions.html>.

## Glossary of Terms

"Internet and Library Terms for LIB 111." Macdonald DeWitt Library. 18 Sept. 2001.  
Ulster County Community College.  
<http://www.sunyulster.edu/resources/infolitglossary.asp>

## Hartnell College Courses That Include One or More Aspects of Information Literacy

LIB 2	Introduction to using the Academic Library
LIB 5	Library Research in the Sciences and Applied Technology
LIB 6	Library Research in Social Sciences
LIB 7	Library Research in Literature and the Fine Arts
LBT 90	Internet Literacy
ENG 1A	College Composition and Reading
ENG 2	Critical Thinking and Writing
CIS 11	Introduction to Computer Applications
CIS 39.009	Tech Tools

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