

Information Literacy: Extending Our Reach
University of Tennessee Libraries
Plan for 2002-2003

Our Mission:

The purpose of Instructional Services is to support the teaching, research, and public service programs of the University and the Libraries by providing leadership for instruction in the access, evaluation, and responsible use of information, both in and out of traditional library settings. Our goal is to develop independent lifelong learning skills among the members of the university community.

The Goal:

To develop partnerships with teaching faculty and campus partners to begin integrating information literacy into campus culture.

Significance of the Goal:

- Through working together, library and teaching faculty can more effectively focus student learning for information literacy.
- Through beginning early in the college experience, librarians can build a foundation for information literacy education.
- Through targeting specific courses, library and teaching faculty can build appropriate information literacy experiences into the curriculum.
- Through partnering with other groups on campus who focus on teaching and learning, the Libraries can employ a variety of strengths and expertise to enhance information literacy outreach.

Objectives:

- Promote the concept of information literacy with faculty through pilot projects, workshops, speakers, and/or other types of programmatic initiatives to introduce the concepts, generate dialog, and look for potential partners.
- Incorporate an information literacy component into the freshman composition program to begin developing foundational competencies while working to re-design the program with an information literacy focus.
- Begin planning the integration of information literacy into undergraduate education to build students' skills and competencies within and beyond the academic environment.

- Explore potential partnerships with other campus groups focused on teaching and learning, such as the School of Information Sciences and the Teaching Council, to further extend and enhance information literacy outreach.

Rationale:

- Information literacy will become more integral to student learning.
- Students will benefit from a foundation in information literacy early in their college experience.
- Students will encounter discipline-specific approaches to information literacy throughout the curriculum.
- The Libraries can more effectively reach our goal through partnerships on campus.

Important Individuals and Groups:

- Students: We want to maximize their learning experience.
- Teaching faculty: We want to partner with them in providing information literacy education.
- Subject librarians: We want to maximize students' skills in using information.
- Instructional Services Coordinator: To lead in planning and implementation
- Subject Coordinators: To help shape plans for discipline-specific teaching
- Head of Reference and Instructional Services: To lead, plan, and support throughout the process
- Dean of Libraries: To represent information literacy efforts to the university administration and community and to support our teaching function
- Campus Partners (such as the School of Information Sciences, the Teaching Council, the Innovative Technologies Center, the Teaching, Learning and Technology Group): To collaborate for effective information literacy outreach

Resources:

- Well-chosen books, articles, and Web sites on information literacy
- Financial and professional support from the Dean of Libraries and the Head of Reference and Instructional Services

- Incentives for partnering in pilot projects
- Time for learning, developing teaching materials, and implementing the program
- A full-time Reference/Information Literacy Librarian

Implementation Plan:

The work of the groups mentioned below will shape future plans and this document will change accordingly.

Summer 2002

- Begin to rethink our approach to undergraduate education
- Develop a long-range plan for the next 4 or 5 years
- Form working groups to plan for and begin implementing three specific goals:

Promote the concept of information literacy with faculty through pilot projects, workshops, speakers, and/or other types of programmatic initiatives to introduce the concepts, generate dialog, and look for potential partners.

- led by Marie, Molly, and Jacqueline

Re-envision the library component for freshman composition and develop a plan to provide a foundation in information literacy

- led by Margaret C. and Margaret M.

Explore potential partnerships with other campus groups focused on teaching and learning, such as the School of Information Sciences and the Teaching Council.

- led by Rita and Jeanine

Group reports will be submitted by the end of Summer 2002.

- Define and identify information intensive courses
- Finalize the Web evaluation tutorial as an information literacy component for freshman composition classes

Fall 2002

- Using courses identified as information intensive, begin planning the integration of information literacy into undergraduate education through pilot projects and identify additional faculty partners

- Pilot the Web evaluation tutorial for English 102
- Begin developing the foundational information literacy tutorial
- Continue overall planning for the undergraduate curriculum
- Build on the partnerships identified

Spring 2003

- Implement and assess the pilot projects
- Implement and assess the Web evaluation tutorial for English 102
- Continue development of the foundational information literacy tutorial
- Continue overall planning for the undergraduate curriculum
- Continue to build on key partnerships

Summer 2003

- With teaching faculty, plan a series of faculty workshops for fall and spring
- Pilot the information literacy tutorial
- Continue overall planning for the undergraduate curriculum
- Engage in further planning with current campus partners and identify additional partners

Assessment:

- Build assessment into the pilot information literacy projects
- Build assessment into the foundational information literacy tutorial
- Use assessment methods both in forming and in regularly revising the information literacy plan

Information Literacy Planning Group:

Marie Garrett, Chair
 Margaret Casado
 Jacqueline Kracker
 Margaret Mellinger

Molly Royse
Rita Smith
Jeanine Williamson

May, 2002