



NSSE 2015 Topical Module

Experiences with Information Literacy

Indiana University South Bend

IPEDS: 151342

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About This Topical Module

Developed in collaboration with college and university librarians, this module asks students about their use of information and how much their instructors emphasized the proper use of information sources. This module complements questions on the core survey about higher-order learning and how much writing students do.

Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Carnegie Class' column of this report.

Group label	Carnegie Class
Date submitted	6/12/15
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this group by selecting institutional characteristics as follows: Basic Classification (Master's L, Master's M, Master's S, Bac/Div); Sector (Pub)
Group description	Public Master's and Baccalaureate Degree Offering Institutions.

Carnegie Class (N=30)

Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania (Bloomsburg, PA)
 California State Polytechnic University-Pomona (Pomona, CA)*
 California State University, East Bay (Hayward, CA)
 California University of Pennsylvania (California, PA)
 Clarion University of Pennsylvania (Clarion, PA)
 East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania (East Stroudsburg, PA)
 Eastern Connecticut State University (Willimantic, CT)
 Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (Edinboro, PA)
 Fitchburg State University (Fitchburg, MA)
 Georgia Gwinnett College (Lawrenceville, GA)
 Indiana University Kokomo (Kokomo, IN)
 Kutztown University of Pennsylvania (Kutztown, PA)
 Lock Haven University (Lock Haven, PA)
 Longwood University (Farmville, VA)*
 Mansfield University of Pennsylvania (Mansfield, PA)
 Millersville University of Pennsylvania (Millersville, PA)
 Northwestern Oklahoma State University (Alva, OK)*
 Oregon Institute of Technology (Klamath Falls, OR)
 San Jose State University (San Jose, CA)*
 Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Slippery Rock, PA)
 State University of New York at Potsdam, The (Potsdam, NY)*
 SUNY Empire State College (Saratoga Springs, NY)*
 Texas State University (San Marcos, TX)
 Towson University (Towson, MD)*
 University of Baltimore (Baltimore, MD)*
 University of Montevallo (Montevallo, AL)*
 University of Puerto Rico in Ponce (Ponce, PR)*
 William Paterson University of New Jersey (Wayne, NJ)*
 Winona State University (Winona, MN)
 Worcester State University (Worcester, MA)*

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				IU South Bend		Carnegie Class		IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Completed an assignment that used an information source (book, article, website, etc.) other than required course readings	INL01a	1	Never	6	2	140	2	3.2	3.2	-.06
		2	Sometimes	73	22	1,329	18			
		3	Often	107	32	2,750	36			
		4	Very often	155	44	3,542	45			
		Total		341	100	7,761	100			
b. Worked on a paper or project that had multiple smaller assignments such as an outline, annotated bibliography, rough draft, etc.	INL01b	1	Never	15	5	296	4	3.1	3.0	.04
		2	Sometimes	71	22	1,801	24			
		3	Often	121	36	2,922	38			
		4	Very often	133	38	2,728	34			
		Total		340	100	7,747	100			
c. Received feedback from an instructor that improved your use of information resources (source selection, proper citation, etc.)	INL01c	1	Never	16	5	380	5	3.0	2.9	.10
		2	Sometimes	64	20	1,990	26			
		3	Often	143	42	2,972	39			
		4	Very often	116	33	2,393	30			
		Total		339	100	7,735	100			
d. Completed an assignment that used the library's electronic collection of articles, books, and journals (JSTOR, EBSCO, LexisNexis, ProQuest, etc.)	INL01d	1	Never	90	27	1,435	19	2.4	2.5 *	-.13
		2	Sometimes	99	29	2,492	33			
		3	Often	87	25	2,104	27			
		4	Very often	65	19	1,700	21			
		Total		341	100	7,731	100			
e. Decided not to use an information source in a course assignment due to its questionable quality	INL01e	1	Never	112	32	1,932	25	2.1	2.3 **	-.15
		2	Sometimes	115	34	2,883	38			
		3	Often	76	22	1,863	24			
		4	Very often	38	11	1,050	14			
		Total		341	100	7,728	100			
f. Changed the focus of a paper or project based on information you found while researching the topic	INL01f	1	Never	65	19	1,259	16	2.4	2.4	-.01
		2	Sometimes	129	38	3,151	41			
		3	Often	92	27	2,144	28			
		4	Very often	54	16	1,168	15			
		Total		340	100	7,722	100			
g. Looked for a reference that was cited in something you read	INL01g	1	Never	66	19	1,221	15	2.5	2.5	-.05
		2	Sometimes	119	35	2,689	35			
		3	Often	88	25	2,365	31			
		4	Very often	68	21	1,437	18			
		Total		341	100	7,712	100			
h. Identified how a book, article, or creative work has contributed to a field of study	INL01h	1	Never	71	20	1,506	19	2.4	2.4	-.02
		2	Sometimes	120	36	2,753	36			
		3	Often	93	27	2,117	28			
		4	Very often	57	17	1,326	17			
		Total		341	100	7,702	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				IU South Bend		Carnegie Class		IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
2. During the current school year, how much have your instructors emphasized the following?										
a. Not plagiarizing another author's work	INL02a	1	Very little	6	2	134	2	3.6	3.6	-.08
		2	Some	28	8	432	6			
		3	Quite a bit	65	20	1,394	19			
		4	Very much	242	70	5,786	73			
		Total		341	100	7,746	100			
b. Appropriately citing the sources used in a paper or project	INL02b	1	Very little	8	3	131	2	3.5	3.5	.04
		2	Some	24	7	629	9			
		3	Quite a bit	85	26	2,005	27			
		4	Very much	224	65	4,959	62			
		Total		341	100	7,724	100			
c. Using scholarly or peer-reviewed sources in your course assignments	INL02c	1	Very little	27	9	332	4	3.2	3.3	-.08
		2	Some	44	13	1,171	16			
		3	Quite a bit	102	30	2,250	30			
		4	Very much	166	49	3,960	50			
		Total		339	100	7,713	100			
d. Questioning the quality of information sources	INL02d	1	Very little	26	8	433	6	3.1	3.1	-.03
		2	Some	61	18	1,422	19			
		3	Quite a bit	99	29	2,369	32			
		4	Very much	152	45	3,475	44			
		Total		338	100	7,699	100			
e. Using practices (terminology, methods, writing style, etc.) of a specific major or field of study	INL02e	1	Very little	27	8	605	8	3.0	3.0	-.06
		2	Some	77	23	1,607	21			
		3	Quite a bit	106	31	2,184	29			
		4	Very much	129	38	3,263	42			
		Total		339	100	7,659	100			
3. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in using information effectively?										
	INL03	1	Very little	9	3	209	3	3.0	3.1	-.10
		2	Some	83	25	1,401	19			
		3	Quite a bit	152	45	3,710	48			
		4	Very much	96	28	2,370	31			
		Total		340	100	7,690	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

NSSE 2015 Experiences with Information Literacy

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons

Indiana University South Bend

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				IU South Bend		Carnegie Class		IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Completed an assignment that used an information source (book, article, website, etc.) other than required course readings	INL01a	1	Never	14	3	204	2	3.3	3.4 **	-0.17
		2	Sometimes	72	17	1,463	13			
		3	Often	133	30	3,223	28			
		4	Very often	217	50	6,805	57			
		Total		436	100	11,695	100			
b. Worked on a paper or project that had multiple smaller assignments such as an outline, annotated bibliography, rough draft, etc.	INL01b	1	Never	36	8	759	7	2.9	3.0	-0.08
		2	Sometimes	109	25	2,703	24			
		3	Often	128	30	3,625	32			
		4	Very often	161	36	4,593	38			
		Total		434	100	11,680	100			
c. Received feedback from an instructor that improved your use of information resources (source selection, proper citation, etc.)	INL01c	1	Never	46	11	860	8	2.8	2.9	-0.05
		2	Sometimes	117	27	3,068	27			
		3	Often	127	30	4,026	35			
		4	Very often	145	32	3,714	31			
		Total		435	100	11,668	100			
d. Completed an assignment that used the library's electronic collection of articles, books, and journals (JSTOR, EBSCO, LexisNexis, ProQuest, etc.)	INL01d	1	Never	72	17	1,346	12	2.7	2.9 *	-0.12
		2	Sometimes	107	25	2,843	25			
		3	Often	101	24	2,996	26			
		4	Very often	154	34	4,472	37			
		Total		434	100	11,657	100			
e. Decided not to use an information source in a course assignment due to its questionable quality	INL01e	1	Never	128	29	3,026	26	2.2	2.3 *	-0.10
		2	Sometimes	163	38	4,256	37			
		3	Often	81	18	2,497	21			
		4	Very often	63	14	1,889	16			
		Total		435	100	11,668	100			
f. Changed the focus of a paper or project based on information you found while researching the topic	INL01f	1	Never	96	22	2,045	18	2.3	2.4 *	-0.11
		2	Sometimes	180	42	4,881	42			
		3	Often	96	22	2,905	25			
		4	Very often	62	14	1,822	15			
		Total		434	100	11,653	100			
g. Looked for a reference that was cited in something you read	INL01g	1	Never	73	17	1,525	13	2.5	2.6 **	-0.13
		2	Sometimes	162	38	3,964	34			
		3	Often	107	25	3,485	30			
		4	Very often	92	20	2,676	23			
		Total		434	100	11,650	100			
h. Identified how a book, article, or creative work has contributed to a field of study	INL01h	1	Never	106	24	1,965	17	2.3	2.5 ***	-0.18
		2	Sometimes	154	35	3,953	34			
		3	Often	91	21	3,223	28			
		4	Very often	84	19	2,490	21			
		Total		435	100	11,631	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				IU South Bend		Carnegie Class		IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
2. During the current school year, how much have your instructors emphasized the following?										
a. Not plagiarizing another author's work	INL02a	1	Very little	12	3	341	3	3.5	3.6	-.07
		2	Some	45	10	877	8			
		3	Quite a bit	87	21	2,231	20			
		4	Very much	291	66	8,245	70			
		Total		435	100	11,694	100			
b. Appropriately citing the sources used in a paper or project	INL02b	1	Very little	18	4	382	4	3.4	3.5	-.09
		2	Some	51	12	1,080	10			
		3	Quite a bit	103	25	2,687	24			
		4	Very much	260	59	7,505	63			
		Total		432	100	11,654	100			
c. Using scholarly or peer-reviewed sources in your course assignments	INL02c	1	Very little	36	9	641	6	3.3	3.3	-.09
		2	Some	59	14	1,373	13			
		3	Quite a bit	86	21	2,673	24			
		4	Very much	251	57	6,937	58			
		Total		432	100	11,624	100			
d. Questioning the quality of information sources	INL02d	1	Very little	42	10	1,028	9	3.0	3.0	-.03
		2	Some	93	22	2,265	20			
		3	Quite a bit	106	25	3,152	27			
		4	Very much	192	43	5,156	43			
		Total		433	100	11,601	100			
e. Using practices (terminology, methods, writing style, etc.) of a specific major or field of study	INL02e	1	Very little	22	5	567	5	3.2	3.2	-.06
		2	Some	85	20	1,829	17			
		3	Quite a bit	113	27	3,124	28			
		4	Very much	211	48	6,043	51			
		Total		431	100	11,563	100			
3. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in using information effectively?										
	INL03	1	Very little	13	3	220	2	3.2	3.3 *	-0.12 ▽
		2	Some	70	16	1,490	13			
		3	Quite a bit	169	38	4,570	40			
		4	Very much	184	42	5,366	45			
		Total		436	100	11,646	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Variable name	N		Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class			
	Comparisons with: Carnegie Class										
INL01a	339	3.18	3.23	.05	.01	0.84	0.80	12,177	.271	-.06	
INL01b	338	3.06	3.02	.05	.01	0.89	0.86	12,154	.444	.04	
INL01c	337	3.04	2.95	.05	.01	0.85	0.87	12,136	.061	.10	
INL01d	339	2.37	2.51	.06	.01	1.07	1.03	12,131	.015	-.13	
INL01e	339	2.12	2.27	.05	.01	0.99	0.98	12,125	.008	-.15	
INL01f	339	2.41	2.41	.05	.01	0.97	0.93	12,117	.896	-.01	
INL01g	339	2.48	2.53	.06	.01	1.02	0.96	356	.353	-.05	
INL01h	339	2.41	2.43	.05	.01	1.00	0.98	12,089	.664	-.02	
INL02a	339	3.58	3.63	.04	.01	0.73	0.68	356	.171	-.08	
INL02b	339	3.53	3.50	.04	.01	0.74	0.73	12,119	.461	.04	
INL02c	337	3.19	3.25	.05	.01	0.96	0.88	12,104	.165	-.08	
INL02d	337	3.11	3.14	.05	.01	0.97	0.91	12,087	.533	-.03	
INL02e	337	2.98	3.04	.05	.01	0.97	0.98	12,016	.263	-.06	
INL03	339	2.98	3.06	.04	.01	0.80	0.78	12,071	.064	-.10	

Seniors

Variable name	N		Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class	IU South Bend	Carnegie Class			
	Comparisons with: Carnegie Class										
INL01a	435	3.27	3.41	.04	.01	0.85	0.78	451	.001	-.17	
INL01b	433	2.94	3.01	.05	.01	0.98	0.94	19,976	.089	-.08	
INL01c	434	2.84	2.88	.05	.01	1.00	0.93	450	.358	-.05	
INL01d	433	2.75	2.87	.05	.01	1.11	1.05	450	.025	-.12	
INL01e	434	2.17	2.28	.05	.01	1.00	1.01	19,967	.032	-.10	
INL01f	433	2.28	2.38	.05	.01	0.96	0.95	19,932	.022	-.11	
INL01g	433	2.50	2.63	.05	.01	1.00	0.97	19,929	.006	-.13	
INL01h	434	2.35	2.53	.05	.01	1.05	1.00	19,897	.000	-.18	
INL02a	434	3.51	3.56	.04	.01	0.79	0.76	451	.137	-.07	
INL02b	432	3.39	3.46	.04	.01	0.86	0.81	448	.068	-.09	
INL02c	431	3.25	3.33	.05	.01	0.99	0.91	446	.105	-.09	
INL02d	432	3.02	3.05	.05	.01	1.03	1.00	19,853	.548	-.03	
INL02e	431	3.18	3.24	.04	.01	0.93	0.91	19,785	.187	-.06	
INL03	435	3.19	3.28	.04	.01	0.82	0.77	19,908	.017	-.12	

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent *t*-tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent *t*-tests uses Cohen's *d*.
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the *t*-tests. Values differ from *N*s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent *t*-tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the comparison group is due to chance.

Key to symbols:

- ▲ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- △ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▽ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▼ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.