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Information Literacy at North Carolina A&T State University The Core Competency Standards

I. Define the research problem and the need for information by:

- a. Articulating a research question, problem, issue or information need.
- b. Becoming familiar with key concepts and terminology related to their research need by obtaining background information.
- c. Defining a manageable focus and timeline for completing their research need.
- d. Identifying the types and formats of materials that can be used for research (books, journals, government documents, media, e-resources, websites, etc.).

II. Construct effective search strategies appropriate for an information need by:

- a. Differentiating among the types of available tools at North Carolina A&T State University (specialized encyclopedias, article databases, citation indexes, bibliographies, library catalogs, search engines, etc.) and the value of each.
- b. Formulating synonyms and related terms for accessing the various information retrieval systems.
- c. Choosing terms suitable to the selected information retrieval system to gain access.
- d. Reviewing successes and failures, revising research strategies, and attempting different techniques and retrieval systems as needed.

III. Locate and retrieve information by:

- a. Utilizing the information retrieval systems suitable for their information need.
- b. Interpreting the components of a library record or citation accurately.
- c. Recognizing key elements such as call numbers, URLs, database icons to physically locate library materials.

IV. Evaluate information by:

- a. Distinguishing between reliable and unreliable sources of information.
- b. Investigating the authority, accuracy, timeliness and completeness of the information retrieved.
- c. Determining whether the information retrieved is relevant and sufficient for their information need.

V. Organize, synthesize, and communicate information by:

- a. Managing the information selected and the research materials consulted.
- b. Integrating new and prior information from a variety of sources appropriate to the project (presentation, paper, or product).
- c. Communicating the project (presentation, paper, or product) effectively to others.

VI. Apply principles consistent with the ethical and legal uses of information by:

- a. Complying with institutional policies regarding intellectual property, plagiarism, and fair use of copyrighted materials.
- b. Acknowledging sources appropriately
- c. Creating accurate bibliography or reference page using a consistent citation style.

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- UCLA Library. (2005). *Developing Information Literacy Core Competencies*. Retrieved October 22, 2005

http://www.library.ucla.edu/infolit/developing_competencies.html INVALID LINK

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