

Information Literacy and Liberal Education From Google to Scholarly Sources

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? INFORMATION

“information literacy should in fact be conceived more broadly as a new liberal art... as essential to the mental framework of the educated information-age citizen as the trivium of basic liberal arts (grammar, logic and rhetoric) was to the educated person in medieval society.”

Shapiro, J. & Hughes, S. (1996).



Breadth

Connections

Critical Thinking

Civic Engagement

A black and white photograph of a hand gripping a metal grid, symbolizing restriction or seeking freedom. The hand is positioned in the lower-left quadrant, with fingers curled around a horizontal bar. The grid consists of vertical and horizontal bars, creating a pattern of squares. The background is a blurred, light-colored wall. A dark horizontal band across the middle of the image contains the title text in white.

Liberal Education 1000

A photograph of a stone archway leading to a path with stone steps and a metal railing. The archway is made of dark, rough-hewn stones. The path is paved with flat stones and leads to a bright, sunlit area with trees in the background. In the foreground, there are several stone steps leading up to the path, and a black metal railing is visible on the left side.

Threshold Concepts



ACRL Framework

1. Authority is Constructed & Contextual
2. Information Creation as a Process
3. Information has Value
4. Research as Inquiry
5. Scholarship as Conversation
6. Searching as Strategic Exploration

A chemistry laboratory with students in white lab coats working at a bench with various glassware and equipment. The scene is brightly lit by large windows in the background. The students are focused on their tasks, and the lab bench is cluttered with scientific instruments like flasks, beakers, and a sink. A semi-transparent dark banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text 'Information Literacy Labs' in white.

Information Literacy Labs



Our Question



I already know


“the skills taught in lecture were already skills I have been required to learn. As a second year student I have written 7+ research papers so the lecture did feel a bit repetitive.”




“I didn’t expect to like it ... [the Info Literacy Lab} ... because I had written multiple essays last semester that required academic sources. And last semester I had no issues using the library search tool.”



It`s all a website




“I find the university library database to be extremely difficult and confusing to use. Previously I had not been properly instructed on how to maneuver the site and it caused me a great deal of frustration and anxiety when trying to find sources for previous assignments and papers.”



“We discussed how the
summons <Summon> was used
to find articles and sources in
the generalized web and how
the library catalog was used to
find sources in the library data
base”



Google is easy



“This was the first time I utilized Summon and searched the library databases, and it felt a bit daunting. While it will take me some practice to get used to these tools, I feel that they will come in handy in my current and future university classes.”



“It was a good class because before this I only ever used google scholar and the basic library search [Summon]”




Others have looked at these questions also

Questions for you:

How to ... ?

1. Cross the 'I already know' barrier
2. Develop ability to differentiate sources of information
3. Learn that databases are richer than Google


mswerts



"I have never quite understood the difference between the database[s] and Summon. After the lab I will now visualize Summon as the outer shell which contains the library database[s] and catalogue."




"Summon... gives you a wide range of results and so you will probably find resources from sources you never would have considered checking. Databases, however, are tailored to specific subjects that may give you more refined searches once you have narrowed down your topic more."



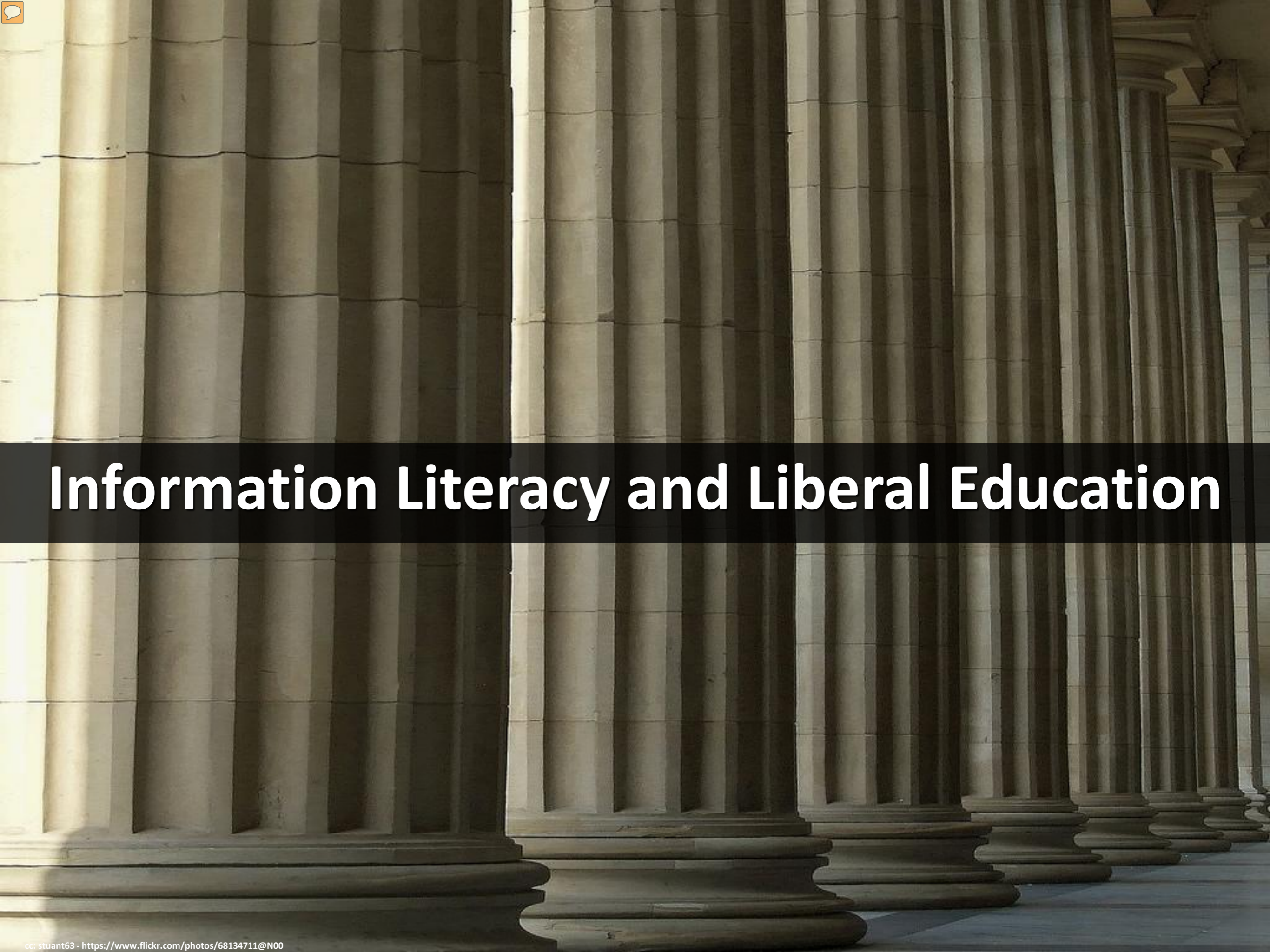
"All information found online is not created equal. This is especially important for students to understand...

"While plenty of valuable information can be found on the internet, a large amount of it is not appropriate for scholarly use. There are no filters as to what is published, which means the **quality of information can vary widely** and excellent resources can be found right alongside the most questionable...

"When using the internet for research, **students need to operate on the premise of 'student beware'** and learn the skills necessary to **critically evaluate all resources prior to use** in their academic assignments."



"As a Canadian adult citizen, I find **understanding research and source credibility crucial to properly inform myself**, as well as fellow Canadian adults, to make properly astute and knowledgeable decisions when voting... **it is important that individuals possess the ability to verify and evaluate information presented by political parties in order to stay correctly informed...** if I don't properly understand a topic that is being debated within the political realm of my country, I can properly conduct a search and educate myself on said topic to the point where I can comfortably draw a conclusion. 'Facts' and claims require evidence; the research and evaluation of evidence determines acceptability of facts and claims, indicating that **proper research equips an individual with sufficient education to form an erudite supposition.**"



Information Literacy and Liberal Education

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