NSSE 2014 Topical Module
Experiences with Information Literacy

Washington State University

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NSSE 2014 Experiences with Information Literacy

Administration Summary
Washington State University

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 - RU/VH' column of this report.

Group label	Carnegie - RU/VH
Date submitted	6/11/14
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this comparison group by selecting institutions from all module participants.
Group description	Carnegie Classification - Research University/Very High Research Activity

'Carnegie - RU/VH' institutions (N=7)

Brigham Young University (Provo, UT)

Clark University (Worcester, MA)

Howard University (Washington, DC)

Ohio University (Athens, OH)

The University of New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)

University of Louisiana at Lafayette (Lafayette, LA)

University of Massachusetts Boston (Boston, MA)

NSSE 2014 Experiences with Information Literacy

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Washington State University

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a] WSU Count	WSU %	Carnegie - RU/VH Count	Carnegie - RU/VH %	Statistical Comparisons[b] WSU Mean	Carnegie - RU/VH 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, Web site, etc.) other than required course readings	INL01a	1	Never	6	1	79	3			
		2	Sometimes	85	14	618	22			
		3	Often	242	43	948	35	**3.3**	3.1 ***	.16
		4	Very often	257	42	1,054	40		△	
			Total	590	100	2,699	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	3	206	8			
		2	Sometimes	133	23	824	28			
		3	Often	225	38	967	35	**3.1**	2.9 ***	.25
		4	Very often	217	36	701	29		△	
			Total	590	100	2,698	100			
c. Received feedback from an instructor that improved your use of information resources (source selection, proper citation, etc.)	INL01c	1	Never	34	6	264	8			
		2	Sometimes	159	27	919	32			
		3	Often	230	39	950	35	**2.9**	2.8 **	.15
		4	Very often	166	28	560	25		△	
			Total	589	100	2,693	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	25	5	558	21			
		2	Sometimes	154	27	1,036	36			
		3	Often	180	31	660	25	**3.0**	2.4 ***	.61
		4	Very often	230	37	442	18		▲	
			Total	589	100	2,696	100			
e. Decided not to use an information source in a course assignment due to its questionable quality	INL01e	1	Never	94	16	815	30			
		2	Sometimes	247	42	1,056	38			
		3	Often	177	30	581	22	**2.4**	2.1 ***	.27
		4	Very often	70	12	240	10		△	
			Total	588	100	2,692	100			
f. Changed the focus of a paper or project based on information you found while researching the topic	INL01f	1	Never	58	10	508	19			
		2	Sometimes	247	41	1,199	43			
		3	Often	181	32	690	26	**2.6**	2.3 ***	.29
		4	Very often	105	17	288	12		△	
			Total	591	100	2,685	100			
g. Looked for a reference that was cited in something you read	INL01g	1	Never	71	12	578	20			
		2	Sometimes	226	38	1,101	39			
		3	Often	188	32	677	27	**2.6**	2.4 ***	.22
		4	Very often	105	18	330	14		△	
			Total	590	100	2,686	100			
h. Identified how a book, article, or creative work has contributed to a field of study	INL01h	1	Never	108	17	735	25			
		2	Sometimes	202	36	1,060	38			
		3	Often	173	30	584	24	**2.5**	2.3 ***	.23
		4	Very often	102	18	293	13		△	
			Total	585	100	2,672	100			

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a]				Statistical Comparisons[b]		
				WSU		Carnegie - RU/VH		WSU	Carnegie - RU/VH	
				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	1	67	3			
		2	Some	37	7	275	10			
		3	Quite a bit	123	21	656	21	**3.6**	3.5 **	.12
		4	Very much	426	71	1,703	67		△	
			Total	592	100	2,701	100			
b. Appropriately citing the sources used in a paper or project	INL02b	1	Very little	5	1	90	3			
		2	Some	48	9	343	12			
		3	Quite a bit	153	27	817	28	**3.5**	3.4 ***	.20
		4	Very much	382	64	1,446	56		△	
			Total	588	100	2,696	100			
c. Using scholarly or peer-reviewed sources in your course assignments	INL02c	1	Very little	14	2	133	5			
		2	Some	55	10	464	17			
		3	Quite a bit	158	28	832	29	**3.4**	3.2 ***	.27
		4	Very much	360	60	1,249	48		△	
			Total	587	100	2,678	100			
d. Questioning the quality of information sources	INL02d	1	Very little	28	5	229	9			
		2	Some	126	22	572	20			
		3	Quite a bit	181	30	831	30	**3.1**	3.0	.08
		4	Very much	255	43	1,048	41			
			Total	590	100	2,680	100			
e. Using practices (terminology, methods, writing style, etc.) of a specific major or field of study	INL02e	1	Very little	42	7	309	11			
		2	Some	142	24	702	25			
		3	Quite a bit	187	32	750	27	**3.0**	2.9	.09
		4	Very much	215	37	893	37			
			Total	586	100	2,654	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	15	3	70	3			
		2	Some	97	17	547	22			
		3	Quite a bit	282	48	1,175	44	**3.1**	3.0 *	.10
		4	Very much	193	32	898	31		△	
			Total	587	100	2,690	100			

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

NSSE 2014 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Washington State University

Seniors

				Frequency Distributions[a]				Statistical Comparisons[b]		
				WSU		Carnegie - RU/VH		WSU	Carnegie - RU/VH	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	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, Web site, etc.) other than required course readings	INL01a	1	Never	25	2	106	2	**3.3**	3.3	.03
		2	Sometimes	188	17	946	19			
		3	Often	331	29	1,358	29			
		4	Very often	623	52	2,384	50			
			Total	1,167	100	4,794	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	68	6	471	11	**2.9**	2.8 *** △	.12
		2	Sometimes	327	29	1,535	30			
		3	Often	385	33	1,438	30			
		4	Very often	383	31	1,355	29			
			Total	1,163	100	4,799	100			
c. Received feedback from an instructor that improved your use of information resources (source selection, proper citation, etc.)	INL01c	1	Never	97	9	642	13	**2.7**	2.6	.04
		2	Sometimes	412	36	1,654	33			
		3	Often	385	33	1,468	31			
		4	Very often	269	22	1,016	23			
			Total	1,163	100	4,780	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	126	12	757	17	**2.9**	2.7 *** △	.18
		2	Sometimes	281	25	1,429	29			
		3	Often	321	28	1,165	25			
		4	Very often	435	35	1,430	29			
			Total	1,163	100	4,781	100			
e. Decided not to use an information source in a course assignment due to its questionable quality	INL01e	1	Never	220	19	1,417	30	**2.3**	2.1 *** △	.18
		2	Sometimes	519	46	1,921	38			
		3	Often	276	23	956	20			
		4	Very often	148	13	485	11			
			Total	1,163	100	4,779	100			
f. Changed the focus of a paper or project based on information you found while researching the topic	INL01f	1	Never	165	15	933	21	**2.3**	2.3	.04
		2	Sometimes	556	48	2,023	42			
		3	Often	297	25	1,230	25			
		4	Very often	143	12	593	13			
			Total	1,161	100	4,779	100			
g. Looked for a reference that was cited in something you read	INL01g	1	Never	126	11	765	16	**2.6**	2.5	.07
		2	Sometimes	448	39	1,769	36			
		3	Often	369	32	1,348	28			
		4	Very often	222	18	890	19			
			Total	1,165	100	4,772	100			
h. Identified how a book, article, or creative work has contributed to a field of study	INL01h	1	Never	205	19	1,112	23	**2.4**	2.3	.03
		2	Sometimes	466	40	1,823	37			
		3	Often	315	27	1,111	23			
		4	Very often	175	14	720	17			
			Total	1,161	100	4,766	100			

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

NSSE 2014 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Washington State University

Seniors

| | | | | Frequency Distributions[a] | | | | Statistical Comparisons[b] | | |
| | | | | WSU | | Carnegie - RU/VH | | WSU | Carnegie - RU/VH | |
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	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	36	3	296	6			
		2	Some	108	10	837	15			
		3	Quite a bit	285	26	1,310	26	**3.4**	3.3 ***	.19
		4	Very much	736	61	2,349	54		△	
			Total	1,165	100	4,792	100			
b. Appropriately citing the sources used in a paper or project	INL02b	1	Very little	38	4	322	6			
		2	Some	127	12	872	17			
		3	Quite a bit	332	29	1,438	29	**3.4**	3.2 ***	.19
		4	Very much	669	55	2,145	48		△	
			Total	1,166	100	4,777	100			
c. Using scholarly or peer-reviewed sources in your course assignments	INL02c	1	Very little	62	6	440	9			
		2	Some	153	14	904	19			
		3	Quite a bit	293	26	1,336	27	**3.3**	3.1 ***	.20
		4	Very much	658	54	2,093	45		△	
			Total	1,166	100	4,773	100			
d. Questioning the quality of information sources	INL02d	1	Very little	118	11	549	12			
		2	Some	262	24	1,355	27			
		3	Quite a bit	338	29	1,379	28	**2.9**	2.8 *	.09
		4	Very much	437	36	1,478	32		△	
			Total	1,155	100	4,761	100			
e. Using practices (terminology, methods, writing style, etc.) of a specific major or field of study	INL02e	1	Very little	76	7	344	8			
		2	Some	227	20	1,005	21			
		3	Quite a bit	360	32	1,485	31	**3.1**	3.0	.03
		4	Very much	490	41	1,897	41			
			Total	1,153	100	4,731	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	20	2	80	2			
		2	Some	168	15	562	14			
		3	Quite a bit	469	40	1,786	38	**3.2**	3.3	-.04
		4	Very much	504	42	2,366	45			
			Total	1,161	100	4,794	100			

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

Endnotes

a. Column percentages are weighted by gender 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 gender 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 gender 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 Ns 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.