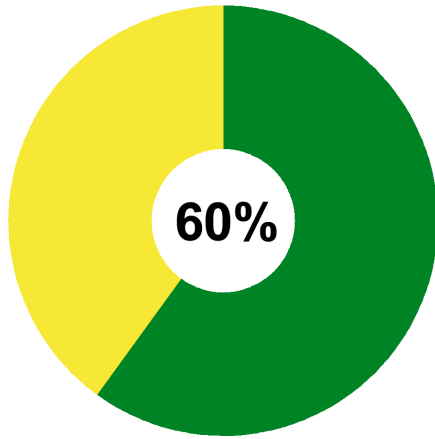


Project SAILS Test

Your Results



Great job!

This Test Key: ABCDEF

Your Student Key: 123456

April 10, 2018

Today you completed the Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (SAILS). An information literate person is comfortable with and proficient in discovering, evaluating, and using information in ethical ways. Information literacy is widely considered an important component of a college education and a key to college success. Most students find this assessment challenging because the questions cover a broad range of skills and knowledge.

Here is what your results show. You have a good grasp of how to develop a research strategy. You likely take the time to understand the context of a research topic, know how to choose between primary and secondary sources, and seek advice about research strategies when you need it. You are knowledgeable about research databases and other tools for finding information. You are usually able to choose the finding tools that are most appropriate for your research needs. You likely take a flexible approach to searching for information, especially when using library databases. You understand that finding the right keywords and combining them appropriately leads to more relevant search results.

Once you identify resources that you want, you are usually successful in retrieving those sources, whether they are online, in a database, or in print. You schedule your work so that you usually have enough time to retrieve sources that are not immediately available, using services such as interlibrary loan. You are developing proficiency with deep evaluation of the sources you are thinking about using for your assignments. You understand that information sources are typically created for a specific audience and that they may be designed to persuade or promote a particular viewpoint. You recognize the purpose of protecting the rights of authors and other information creators. You are ready to navigate the complex territory of rights and responsibilities when using and creating information.

Personal recommendations for strengthening your information literacy abilities and knowledge:

- You can become an even better searcher by exploring library databases that you have not used before to find ones that more closely match your specific information needs. Remember that you often have to search more than one database for a single assignment to find the range of sources you need (i.e., scholarly articles, primary documents, current examples, background information, etc.).
- As you consider the validity and accuracy of a source, think about whether the source is appropriate for a particular assignment or use. Continue to develop your critical thinking skills to determine the intentions of the creator of a source.
- When reflecting on economic, legal, and social issues of information, consider how access to library databases and scholarly information is a privilege that allows you to do scholarly work that would otherwise be nearly impossible. Notice the times when you are not merely using other people's work to say something, but also building on their ideas to contribute something new. Remember that information ethics extend beyond your use of information for assignments and into your workplace and your personal life.