Teaching Information Literacy in an Online Course: Enhancing Student Learning via Interactive Learning Tools

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Disciplines
Information Literacy | Library and Information Science

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Lib160 is an online one credit, half semester Information Literacy course required for all undergraduate majors at Iowa State University.

Course Learning Objectives

**Students learn …**

- how information is produced, organized, and accessed;
- effective search strategies for a variety of web tools and scholarly databases;
- how to choose relevant finding tools;
- learn critical thinking skills in the evaluation of resources;
- best practices in the ethical use of information.

Weekly Course Work

- Need to achieve 80% accuracy
- Five attempts
- One week to work on each quiz

Instructional videos

- 44% students who watched the instructional videos found them to be effective or very effective
- 46% students used Guide on the Side tutorials and found them effective or very effective

Majority of students who filled out the course evaluation survey agreed or strongly agreed that Course Readings, Quizzes and other course materials were effective in helping them learn.

Course evaluation results

- **Instructional Videos** – 44% students who watched the instructional videos found them to be effective or very effective
- **Hands-on practice** – 46% students used Guide on the Side tutorials and found them effective or very effective

Student Success Rate

**Previously:**
- Spring 2011 - 87%
- Fall 2010 - 87%

**Now:**
- Fall 2013 – 96%
- Spring 2013 - 94%