

# CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATION

## LIN 175 – INFORMATION LITERACY

### Exam Material

The course, LIN 175, is designed for students to take the first steps in becoming information literate. The course is divided into five sections:

#### 1. Information Literacy Overview

- Information Literacy definition, overview, and why it is important - information literacy is a crucial skill in the pursuit of knowledge. It involves recognizing when information is needed and being able to efficiently locate, accurately evaluate, effectively use, and clearly communicate information in various formats.
- Information Overload - what it is, how it affects students, how becoming information literate can help one become a more efficient and effective searcher for information

#### 2. Establish Information Need

- Determining and refining information needs.
- Understanding various information resources (i.e. scholarly journals, books, databases, magazines, etc.) and which ones are appropriate for college level research
- Developing a research topic/question.
- What databases are and why they are necessary for research.

#### 3. Locate Information

- Google - its strengths and limitations, how to use it effectively with advanced searches
- Information Cycles - how information is created and develops after an event
- Selecting and using keywords, subject headings
- Finding articles in Steely Library databases and subscribed journals
- Using library research guides

#### 4. Evaluate & Synthesize Information

- Understanding Wikipedia and how it works, why one should be cautious when using it for information
- Evaluating resources for credibility based on:
  - the author/publisher's agenda
  - the author/publisher's credentials
  - citations listed by a resource
  - if the source has been reviewed or edited
  - how relevant the information is to the user
  - how current the information is
- Incorporating information into research papers

#### 5. Ethically Use Information

- Creating and managing citations
- Plagiarism

### Course Description

LIN 175 Information Literacy  
(3 credits)

A foundational course that introduces students to the cross-disciplinary skills needed to assess information needs, and access and evaluate information sources.

### Study Resources

<https://textbooks.opensuny.org/the-information-literacy-users-guide-an-open-online-textbook/>



Testing Services  
University Center 101  
(859) 572 - 6373  
[testing@nku.edu](mailto:testing@nku.edu)