Information Literacy Assessment 2014:

Online 100W Administration

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Method:

9 assessment questions taken from the InfoPower tutorial were programmed in Qualtrics by Library faculty.   100W instructors were recruited by Steve Branz, Associate Dean, Curriculum, and Director of General Education, Undergraduate Studies to administer the quiz in their classes during Spring 2014.

Charcteristics of the Sample:

632 students from the 36 different programs responded. As can be seen in the table below and on the next page, the most prominently represented programs were business, psychology, sociology, kinesiology, English, and biology.

Below is more information about the sample:

How many library instruction sessions have you attended at SJSU?

	Frequency	Percent
None	68	10.8
One	242	38.4
Two	182	28.8
Three or More	125	19.8
Missing	14	2.2
Total	631	100.0

Please indicate your gender:

	Frequency	Percent
Male	279	44.2
Female	334	52.9
Missing	18	2.9
Total	631	100.0

Please indicate your academic level in school:

	Frequency	Percent
Freshman	1	.2
Sophomore	10	1.6
Junior	399	63.2
Senior	201	31.9
missing	20	3.2
Total	631	100.0

Please indicate your age:

	Frequency	Percent
Less than 18	1	.2
18-29	538	85.3
30-39	48	7.6
40-49	13	2.1
50 or older	14	2.2
Missing	17	2.7
Total	631	100.0

Please indicate your major:

	Frequency	Percent
Aerospace Engineering	3	.5
Applied Mathematics	5	.8
Art	4	.6
Athletic Training	10	1.6
Aviation	1	.2
Behavioral Science	12	1.9
Biological Science	67	10.6
Biomedical Engineering	1	.2
Business Administration	109	17.3
Chemical Engineering	8	1.3
Chemistry	2	.3
Civil Engineering	9	1.4
Communication Studies	10	1.6
Computer Engineering	4	.6
Economics	19	3.0
Electrical Engineering	12	1.9
English	8	1.3
French	4	.6
General Engineering	2	.3
Geology	1	.2
Graphic Design	17	2.7
Health Science	12	1.9
History	17	2.7
Industrial and Systems Engineering	2	.3
Industrial Design	7	1.1
Industrial Technology	5	.8
Interior Design	3	.5
Japanese	3	.5
Kinesiology	54	8.6
Mathematics	7	1.1
Mechanical Engineering	10	1.6
Music	3	.5
Nursing	17	2.7
Nutritional Science	6	1.0
Philosophy	2	.3
Physics	3	.5
Political Science	17	2.7
Psychology	51	8.1
Recreation	1	.2
Social Science	10	1.6
Social Work	4	.6
Sociology	43	6.8
Software Engineering	3	.5
Spanish	7	1.1
World Languages and Literatures	2	.3
Other	14	2.2
Missing	20	3.2
Total	631	100.0

Results

Using the typical grading scale, it was expected that 70% of students would complete at least 70% of the questions correctly (a score of 6 or higher). In fact, only 59% of students scored 6 or above on the assessment items.

Student performance on InfoLit Assessment

Total score on assessment	% of Students
.00	.3
1.00	.6
2.00	1.9
3.00	4.1
4.00	11.4
5.00	22.7
6.00	25.7
7.00	21.2
8.00	11.4
9.00	.6
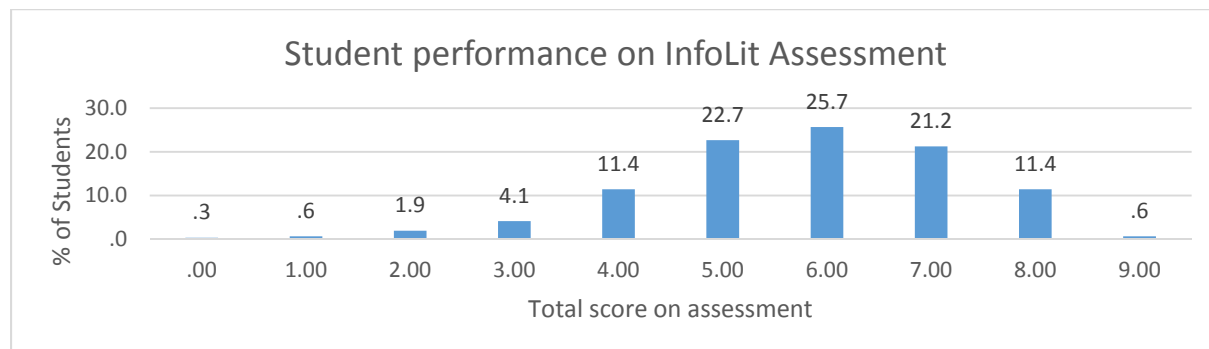
Further analysis revealed that students were weakest in evaluating information and sources critically, with considerable variation in their ability access needed information.

Dimension on VALUE Rubric	Question Wording	% students scoring correct
Access the needed information	1. If your database search for "social media" retrieved 679 results, what would be a good way to narrow it so you get fewer results?	92.40
Determine the extent of information needed Access the needed information	2. Imagine that you are required to write a carefully researched 10-15 page research paper on the fo...	73.50
Evaluate information and its sources critically	3. Which of the following features usually signal that a journal is scholarly and/or peer-reviewed? (Check all that apply)-A. Written by paid journalists	54.10
Access the needed information	4. If you are searching using "children" AND "bullying" but get many articles about children who bu...	85.70
Access the needed information	5. Think carefully about the terms below. Which is the BROADEST term that will READILY bring you res...	55.60
Access the needed information	6. In an online database, which combination of keywords below would retrieve the greatest number of...	44.70
Evaluate information and its sources critically	7. What is the best way to get an idea of what an article is about?	89.20
Access the needed information Determine the extent of information needed	8. You are writing a 10-page paper. Your professor requires in-depth research. Your search on your...	85.60
Evaluate information and its sources critically	9. When doing an Internet search on a controversial topic such as abortion, which of the following...	54.40

The number of library instruction sessions attended was not associated with performance on the assessment measure ($r(617) = .07$, $p = .08$). No other characteristics of the sample predicted performance.

		totalscore
How many library instruction sessions have you attended at SJSU?	Pearson Correlation	.070
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.083

Response to Assessment

Analysis was conducted in Summer 2014, a specific action plan has not yet been developed.

Assessment Instrument

1. If your database search for "social media" retrieved 679 results, what would be a good way to narrow it so you get fewer results?

- ○ A. Add an additional keyword such as "activism" (1)
- ○ B. Take away one of your keywords (2)
- ○ C. Scan the whole list to find what you want (3)
- ○ D. Not sure (4)

2. Imagine that you are required to write a carefully researched 10-15 page research paper on the following topic: Underage drinking is an issue on college campuses. What are the causes, concerns, and proposed solutions to underage drinking among college and university students? Before jumping into the question, please look carefully at the parts of the topic, then think about what steps you would take to get the information, what search terms you might use, and where you would look for the information. Which of the following is the most promising research question for your paper? (check one)

- ○ A. Is alcoholism a big problem? (1)
- ○ B. Do a high percentage of college students engage in underage drinking because they want to "look cool" and "fin in"? (2)
- ○ C. Can collegiate underage drinking and its psychological causes be reduced through campus intervention programs? (3)
- ○ D. Have any students been expelled from my college for underage drinking? (4)

3. Which of the following features usually signal that a journal is scholarly and/or peer-reviewed? (Check all that apply)

- ❑ A. Written by paid journalists (1)
- ❑ B. The presence of citations/footnotes (2)
- ❑ C. The presence of abstracts (3)
- ❑ D. Published weekly (4)
- ❑ E. Authors describe methodology and supply data (5)

4. If you are searching using "children" AND "bullying" but get many articles about children who bully and stalk, how would you eliminate the articles about stalking?

○ A. Search using "children" AND "bullying" OR "stalking" (1)
○ B. Search using "children" AND "bullying" AND "stalking" (2)
○ C. Search using "children" AND "bullying" NOT "stalking" (3)
○ D. Sort your search results by date (4)
○ E. Not sure (5)

5. Think carefully about the terms below. Which is the BROADEST term that will READILY bring you results about underage drinking? (Check one)

○ A. Alcohol Drinking Patterns (1)
○ B. Bulimia (2)
○ C. Social Behavior (3)
○ D. Alcohol Abuse (4)

6. In an online database, which combination of keywords below would retrieve the greatest number of results?

○ A. Cognition AND emotion (1)
○ B. Cognition OR emotion (2)
○ C. Cognition NOT emotion (3)
○ D. Cognition AND emotion NOT feelings (4)
○ E. Not sure (5)

7. What is the best way to get an idea of what an article is about?

○ A. Read the title of the article (1)
○ B. Read the cited references at the end of the article (2)
○ C. Read the abstract of the article (3)
○ D. Read the citation for the article (4)
○ E. Not sure (5)

8. You are writing a 10-page paper. Your professor requires in-depth research. Your search on your paper topic has produced three articles. What is the best course of action?

○ A. Revise the search to retrieve more results. (1)
○ B. Do not revise the search because the number of articles is adequate. (2)
○ C. Revise the search to retrieve fewer results. (3)
○ D. Not sure. (4)

9. When doing an Internet search on a controversial topic such as abortion, which of the following statements is most accurate about possible bias of a website?

○ A. The website domain indicates whether a site is biased or not. (For example, a website with an .edu domain will probably not show bias while a website with a .com domain will.) (1)
○ B. The only way to determine bias is to read the information on the site and compare it to other sources. (2)
○ C. If the website includes statistics, it is probably unbiased. (3)
○ D. Don't know (4)