

## ***IL Competencies for NMSU Students at Various Levels***

### **First Year Students**

*\*Introduction to Library research*

#### **SKILLS**

- Locations of library materials & service points
- How to read call numbers
- Awareness of basic library services (reference, reserves, etc.) & policies (circulation period, renewals, etc.)
- Keyword searching in the OPAC and a general article database
- Differences between full-text Library resources and the Web
- Use of APA or MLA to cite sources in a reference list/works cited
- Knowledge of strategies for limiting a search (use of AND, searching in title only, date, publication type, etc.)

COURSES (CURRENT OR POTENTIAL)

LSC 111 (8 or 16 weeks); ENGL 111; UNIV 150; 100-level courses in various departments; workshops & tours

### **Second Year Students**

*\*Transition to research in the major*

#### **SKILLS**

- Locating subject headings/descriptors from the results of keyword searches and using these subject headings/descriptors to construct new searches
- Awareness of discipline-specific databases related to students' majors (e.g., General Science Abstracts, Social Science Abstracts)
- Awareness of subject-specific encyclopedias
- Knowledge of strategies for limiting a search (use of AND, searching in title only, date, publication type, etc.)
- Awareness of the differences between scholarly, popular, & trade periodicals
- Awareness of Interlibrary Loan services
- Independent ability to check for electronic availability of articles cited

COURSES (CURRENT OR POTENTIAL)

LSC 211 (8 weeks); ENGL 203, ENGL 211, ENGL 218; other 200-level courses in various departments; workshops

### **Third Year Students**

*\*Transition to research in the major*

#### **SKILLS**

- Awareness of subject-specific databases related to students' majors (e.g., PsycINFO); ability to perform basic searches in these databases
- Awareness of appropriate subject-specific reference sources
- Knowledge of strategies for limiting a search (use of AND, searching in title only, date, publication type, etc.)
- Knowledge of what constitutes primary, secondary, and tertiary information in their field
- Effective use of Interlibrary Loan services
- Independent ability to check for electronic availability of articles cited
- Awareness of subject-specific citation styles (Chicago, ACS, etc.)

COURSES (CURRENT OR POTENTIAL)

LSC 311; PSY 310; other 300-level courses in various departments; workshops

## ***IL Competencies for NMSU Students at Various Levels***

### **Fourth Year Students**

*\*Research in the major*

#### SKILLS

- Ability to implement more sophisticated searches in subject-specific databases related to students majors (e.g., PsycINFO); knowledge of subject-specific search strategies (e.g., structure searching in chemistry)
- Ability to find references to information resources using non-database tools (as appropriate to students' majors – e.g., archival finding aids)
- Knowledge of strategies for ensuring the comprehensiveness of a search (OR, truncation, wildcards, etc.)
- Knowledge of the publication processes in their discipline & how they relate to finding information
- Knowledge of what constitutes primary, secondary, and tertiary information in their field
- Ability to use subject-specific citation styles (Chicago, ACS, etc.)

COURSES (CURRENT OR POTENTIAL)

LSC 311; 300-and 400-level courses in various departments; workshops

### **Graduate & Professional Students**

#### SKILLS

- Ability to implement more sophisticated searches in subject-specific databases related to students majors (e.g., PsycINFO); knowledge of subject-specific search strategies (e.g., structure searching in chemistry)
- Ability to cite sources in accordance with the norms for publication in the discipline (journal-specific citation styles)
- Ability to find references to information resources using non-database tools (as appropriate to students' majors – e.g., archival finding aids)
- Knowledge of strategies for ensuring the comprehensiveness of a search (OR, truncation, wildcards, etc.)
- Knowledge of the publication processes in their discipline & how they relate to finding information
- Ability to tap into communication processes/invisible colleges within their discipline
- Willingness to look for non-library & non-Web sources – Interlibrary Loan; historical societies; personal interviews; independent data collection; etc.
- Basic knowledge of the research processes of undergraduates & characteristics for effective library assignments (for teaching-track graduate students); ability to apply effective information finding and use strategies in the field (professional students & non-teaching-track graduate students)

COURSES (CURRENT OR POTENTIAL)

LSC 511; graduate courses; workshops