



LIBRARY

MISSION STATEMENT

Southwestern Illinois College Library is an integral partner in the fulfillment of the college's educational endeavor. As a teaching library, we prepare students to locate, retrieve, evaluate, and use information effectively in the current environment of rapid technological change and we are committed to continually assessing the strength of student information literacy skills. As the college's principal provider of scholarly information, we are dedicated to providing quality resources that support the college curriculum through collection development, acquisition, organization, and management ensuring both physical and virtual access. Through instruction, information resources, versatile access, and welcoming facilities at each campus, the library fosters lifelong intellectual growth, discovery and self-fulfillment helping patrons to solve challenges and fully participate in the global community as informed citizens.

PROGRAM GOALS

Formal Instruction, Reference Service, & Outreach

1. Teach members of the college community to be effective users and producers of information to meet their academic needs and prepare them for a lifetime of learning and of responsible leadership.
2. Provide reference transactions that recommend, interpret, evaluate, and/or use information resources that help patrons meet their particular information needs.
3. Create and manage information resources by developing and maintaining research collections, research guides, catalogs, databases, and web sites that patrons can use independently, in-house or remotely, to satisfy their information needs.
4. Reach out to the college community apprising them of new or withdrawn resources and services.

Collection, Access, & Resource Sharing

5. Acquire and maintain a current collection of material and electronic resources that is responsive to academic program needs and personal enrichment ensuring both physical and virtual access at the time and place of need.
6. Participate in the larger resource sharing community.

Space

7. Present a welcoming, dedicated facility at each campus for student scholarship and research that enhances the educational experience and preserves the library's collections.

Staff

8. Employ, train, and develop a competent technical staff dedicated to serving patron information needs and supporting student learning.

Technology

9. Meet the changing demands of technological development in the field of information science.

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS and OUTCOMES**Identification, Location, and Retrieval of Information**

1. Student determines the nature and extent of information needed to answer a question or solve a problem.

The student shall be able to:

- 1.1 Confer with a librarian during a reference transaction to identify a research topic, or other information need.
 - 1.2 Explore general information sources to increase familiarity with the topic.
 - 1.3 Define or modify the information need to achieve a manageable focus.
 - 1.4 Identify keywords, synonyms and related terms for the information needed including controlled vocabulary specific to the discipline or information retrieval system selected.
2. Student applies a variety of strategies and research finding tools (article databases, online library catalogs, reference materials, and more) in order to identify, access, and use sources most appropriate to the research question or problem.

The student shall be able to:

- 2.1 Recognize that knowledge can be organized influencing the way information is accessed.
- 2.2 Investigate the scope and content of a variety of information retrieval systems and select an information retrieval system appropriate for the information needed.
- 2.3 Use various classification schemes and other systems (e.g., call number systems or indexes) to retrieve information resources within the library.
- 2.4 Construct an efficient and effective search strategy using appropriate commands for the information retrieval system selected (e.g. Boolean operators, truncation, narrowing with limiters; internal organizers such as indexes for books).
- 2.5 Implement the search strategy in various information retrieval systems using different user interfaces with different command languages, protocols, and search parameters.
- 2.6 Select among various technologies the most appropriate one for the task of extracting the needed information.
- 2.7 Locate information in a variety of formats using various search systems.
- 2.8 Define a realistic overall plan and timeline to acquire the needed information.
- 2.9 Determine the availability of needed information and make decisions on broadening the information seeking process beyond local resources (e.g., interlibrary loan; using resources at other locations; obtaining images, videos, text, or sound).
- 2.10 Use specialized online or in person services available at the college to retrieve information needed (e.g., interlibrary loan/document delivery).

Evaluation of Information

3. Student applies evaluation criteria to assess the reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, currency, and bias of information.

The student shall be able to:

- 3.1 Identify the value and differences of potential resources in a variety of formats (e.g., book, website, article, audio/visual).
- 3.2 Differentiate between popular and scholarly information and their applications.
- 3.3 Apply evaluation criteria to assess the reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, currency, and bias of information.

Effective Use of Information

4. Student uses information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.

The student shall be able to:

- 4.1 Use a range of information technology applications in creating the product.
 - 4.2 Manipulate digital information, transferring it from its original location and format to a new context.
5. Student understands many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and accesses and uses information ethically and legally.

The student shall be able to:

- 5.1 Comply with library policies, use approved passwords and other forms of ID for access to information resources.
- 5.2 Identify and record pertinent citation information and select an appropriate documentation style.
- 5.3 Preserve the integrity of information resources, equipment, systems and facilities.

Submitted by: Samantha Rogers

Division: Library

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