

INFORMATION LITERACY RUBRIC

Criteria	3 - Exemplary	2 - Proficient	1 - Marginal	0 - Unacceptable
1 Determine Information Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defines scope of research question/thesis effectively. Research question/thesis is interesting, creative and/or original. Sources directly address to key concepts or answer research question/thesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defines scope of research question/thesis adequately. Sources relate to key concepts or answer research question/thesis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defines scope of research question/thesis, but scope is incomplete or inadequate (too broad, too narrow). Sources partially relate to key concepts or answer research question/thesis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not articulate a clear research question/thesis. Sources do not relate to key concepts or answer research question/thesis.
2 Find and Access Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses well-designed, thorough and effective search strategies Demonstrates searching persistence and ability to refine search strategy. Sources selected are varied, highly relevant and of high quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizes appropriate and somewhat varied search strategies and tools Demonstrates some ability to refine search strategy Sources accessed are appropriate and relevant but not comprehensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizes simple search strategies Uses narrow range of search terms and tools Sources accessed are limited and unvaried 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No research strategy employed; information accessed randomly Information sources are inappropriate, of poor quality and/or lack relevance.
3 Evaluate Information and sources critically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides thorough analysis of information and sources; applies relevant criteria consistently. Questioning of assumptions leads to an informed understanding of information and sources. Carefully examines context of information and presents it relevantly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriately analyzes information or sources by applying relevant criteria Questions assumptions related to information and sources Explores some contexts of information and sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides superficial analysis of information or sources Acknowledges and/or contextualizes some assumptions related to information and sources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not provide analysis of information or sources Does not acknowledge or contextualize assumptions related to information and sources.
4 Synthesize Information	<p>Meets all "Proficient" descriptions AND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creatively organizes and synthesizes information to support the purpose/format of the product Develops meaningful insights based on a variety of sources and perspectives. Achieves intended purpose with depth and clarity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content organization supports the purpose/format of the product Integrates sources with each other and with one's own argument Appropriately represents major positions on the topic Achieves intended purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempts to organize content but does so inadequately Somewhat engages with sources Inadequately represents other positions and/or fails to acknowledge some major perspectives Engages with sources in a simple manner tending toward summary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not organize content in a manner that supports the purpose/format of the product Does not integrate sources with each other or with one's own argument Misrepresents or fails to acknowledge other positions on the topic
5 Use Information Ethically and Legally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chooses appropriate citation style and follows conventions correctly Accurately cites in-text and in reference list Consistently distinguishes between common knowledge, source information and own analysis Accurately and appropriately quotes, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cites sources following style conventions in-text and in references list; some minor errors Consistently distinguishes between common knowledge, source information and own analysis Accurately quotes, paraphrases and summarizes; represents information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides source citation/acknowledgement; fails to follow style conventions Inconsistently distinguishes between common knowledge, source information, and/or own analysis Inconsistently attempts to quote, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not attribute sources Does not clearly distinguish between common knowledge, source information, and/or own analysis Plagiarizes (intentionally or unintentionally)

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	paraphrases and summarizes; represents information true to original context	true to original context.	paraphrase and/or summarize	
NOTES: If a score falls between categories, give the lower score.				

***Adapted from the AAC&U VALUE Information Literacy Rubric and other rubrics on the RAILS rubric site: <http://railsontrack.info/>**