

Information Literacy in the Focus of Ethics

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The Concept of Information Literacy

- primarily referring to basic skills of reading and writing mostly acquired in the school environment
- the emergence of modern Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) brought new types of information literacy
- nowadays it includes digital, textual and technological types of literacy
- it represents a solid foundation for the process of lifelong learning

Ethical use of information

- information literacy implies appropriate behavior in finding and using information
- leads to informed ethical use of information
- requires high levels of social and academic responsibility particularly at universities
- students must be taught, within their study programs, to honor the principles of ethics when using information sources

The University of Belgrade

- research-oriented university focusing on scientific excellence with 31 faculties and 11 research institutes
- institution with a long tradition of higher education and research in the fields of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Engineering and Technology, Medical Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities
- offers 90 undergraduate, 6 integrated, 128 master and 67 doctoral study programs, as well as 24 academic and 5 professional specialization study programs
- university that has more than 85 000 students with more than 3 000 academic and research staff providing superior academic competencies

The Faculty of Philology

- an integral part of the University of Belgrade
- an educational institution marking two hundred years of tradition in higher education
- boasts a wide range of educational, cultural and scientific interests and activities
- offers the study of 34 languages, cultures and literatures
- one of the leading institutions in Serbia in terms of developing intercultural and multicultural projects

Language, Literature, Culture

Study program Language, Literature, Culture has following goals:

- to educate professionals in the field of humanistic sciences
- capable of performing highly professional (complex) jobs in the fields of education, publishing, translation, librarianship, librarian information technology and culture, as well as in the other fields requiring knowledge of foreign languages, literatures and cultures
- to enable master students for scientific research work in the field of language, literature, culture, librarianship and information technology, as well as to prepare them for further studies at the doctoral level

The LLC course structure

- LLC master study program is very complex
- platform that enables more than 1000 students to choose from more than 30 different languages, literatures and cultures
- based on the mandatory choice of main field of study-literature, language, culture or librarianship
- offers multiple and flexible modularity through a wide range of diverse electives
- *Techniques of academic writing* is the only mandatory course for all students

Techniques of academic writing

- course objective: introduction to the basic principles of research methodology, citations and techniques of academic writing
- students primarily learn about scientific paper's structure, form, language and style
- integral part of this course are also lectures on *the basic principles of copyright and intellectual freedom*
- one of the main goals of this course is to point out the need to respect the intellectual freedom and copyright, especially in academic environment

Information literacy in the focus of ethics within the course *Techniques of academic writing*

- students are taught to use information sources in an ethical manner, while thinking critically and making informed decisions
- they become aware that, by sharing their own knowledge and by using ethically the scientific knowledge of experts from different fields, they contribute to the democratization of society
- this course is aiming at teaching students to create, by using valid scientific sources, new knowledge and share it with the scientific community worldwide

Information and Media Literacy within the study program Cultures in Dialogue

- Course: Information and Media Literacy
- introduction to different types and characteristics of scientific information
- mastering the use of traditional and electronic scientific information in an ethical manner
- understanding the role of the media in handling information
- student recognizes the scientific from the unscientific information and masters the search techniques of traditional and electronic carriers of information and ethical use of information

Libraries as carriers of intellectual freedom

- real promoters of ethical principles
- they are referring to competent retrieval and use of information
- simultaneously enabling universal availability of publications and information
- librarianship contributes, in general, to the idea of the democratization of society
- libraries became part of the global information society based on timely and prompt information

The Digital Library of the Faculty of Philology

- until now 120 000 pages of extremely important editions were digitized and made absolutely searchable
- this project is of paramount importance for both academics dealing with literary procedure and editors of critical editions, as well as for the presence of the Serbian literature and culture on the Internet
- we wanted to make the digital form of our scientific contributions attractive in form, useful for all researchers, teachers and students, in the so-called virtual world of organized knowledge
- our intention was to facilitate continuous education throughout the usage of our Digital Library, while at the same time establishing ethical principles when using its contents

Conclusions:

- In accordance with national priorities and with the Strategy for the Development of Information Society in Serbia until 2020, the Faculty of Philology has dedicated itself to advancing the information literacy skills of its students throughout our study programs
- we included in our curriculum, primarily our Master's programs, basic ethical principles to be followed when searching and using information
- we are aware of the fact that unethical behaviors, primarily plagiarism, need to be incorporated in the teaching of information literacy within our study programs
- one of the possible ways in which ethical issues can be addressed, such as: plagiarism, information and data protection and research ethics, would be to fully develop students' critical thinking in relation to the appropriate usage of sources and information