Information Literacy Competencies of LIS Students: The Case of Turkey

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It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.

- Charles Darwin
Keep key educating yourself
PROJECT INFORMATION LITERACY
A national study about college students’ research habits

Since 2008, we have surveyed over 11,000 students at more than 50 U.S. colleges and universities to study how they find and use information for courses and in their daily lives.

WHAT IS MOST DIFFICULT ABOUT RESEARCH?
84% GETTING STARTED

WHAT OTHER SOURCES DO STUDENTS USE FOR COURSE RESEARCH?
88% DATABASES 83% INSTRUCTORS 30% LIBRARIANS

WHAT DO STUDENTS DO IN THE LIBRARY DURING CRUNCH TIME?
81% CHECK MESSAGES 73% PREPARE ASSIGNMENTS 62% STUDY & REVIEW

12 ADJECTIVES STUDENTS USE TO DESCRIBE HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS
fear, angst, tired, dread, excited, anxious, annoyed, stressed, disgusted, intrigued, confused, & overwhelmed.

http://projectinfolit.org
TRUTH BE TOLD:

How College Students Evaluate and Use Information in the Digital Age

BY ALISON J. HEAD, PH.D. AND MICHAEL B. EISENBERG, PH.D.

PROJECT INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRESS REPORT

NOVEMBER 1, 2010

THE INFORMATION SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

RESEARCH SPONSORED BY MACARTHUR FOUNDATION
IL skills are crucially important for LIS students
LIS students possess high level & well developed IL skills
Australia
Bulgaria
Croatia
Finland
France
France
Hungary
Japan
Lithuania
Malta
the Netherlands
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
Singapore
Switzerland
Turkey
UK
USA
What is difficult?

What difficulties do LIS students encounter with course-related research from start to finish?
501 students
5 schools
73.7% female
92.6% undergraduate
64.9% GPA > 2.5
82.4% 18-23 years old
Research difficulties -
Major findings

- getting started 59.7%
- defining the topic 59.1%
- evaluating web sites 56.1%
- narrowing a topic 50.7%
- self-evaluation 49.9%
0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50

starting
defining the topic
narrowing keywords
search strategy
choosing database
finding articles
choosing database
search strategy
keywords
narrowing
defining the topic
starting

Strongly disagree
Disagree
Neutral
Agree
Strongly agree

Research difficulties- Major findings

finding gray literature
finding up-to-date info.
finding sources in library
evaluating web sites
finding info. on web
finding articles
choosing database
search strategy
keywords
narrowing
defining the topic
starting

[Graph showing research difficulties with categories and responses]
Research difficulties - Major findings

- Self-evaluation
- Deciding whether it is done
- Judgement on plagiarism
- Citing
- Deciding when citation is necessary
- Re-phrasing
- Writing
- Integrating info.
- Taking notes
- Reading through
- Evaluating sources

Strongly disagree
Disagree
Neutral
Agree
Strongly agree
Sources used – Major findings

- search engines 99.6%
- course readings 98.8%
- Wikipedia 92%
- research databases 85.4%
- slide sharing 76%
- social networking sites 73.9%
People frequently consulted – Major findings

- classmates 77.8%
- instructors 71.2%
- friends/family 42.4%
- librarians 37.8%
People consulted

- **Friends/family**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always

- **Classmates**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always

- **Instructors**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always

- **Librarians**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always
Selection & evaluation criteria for library materials – Major findings

- up-to-date 97.8%
- instructor’s recom. 97.6%
- language 97.4%
- author’s credentials 97%
Selection & evaluation criteria for library sources

- Native language
- Familiarity (used before)
- Familiarity (heard about it)
- Instructor's recommendation
- Librarian's recommendation
- Publisher
- Informative quality of charts & graphs
- Bibliography
- Citations & references
- Not biased
- Author credentials
- Up-to-date

Options: Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, Almost always
Selection & evaluation criteria for Web sources – Major findings

- up-to-date 98.6%
- Instructor’s recom. 97.8%
- language 96.6%
- acknowledging viewpoints 95.8%
Selection & evaluation criteria for Web sources

- Links
- URL
- Native language
- Familiarity (used before)
- Familiarity (heard about it)
- Instructor's recommendation
- Librarian's recommendation
- Design
- Informative quality of charts & graphs
- Bibliography
- Citations & references
- Not biased
- Author credentials
- Up-to-date

Responses:
- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Often
- Almost always
Technology used – Major findings

- laptops 95.6%
- desktops 91%
- smart phones 60%
- tablets 27.1%
Technology used for accessing information

- **smart phone**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always

- **tablet**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always

- **laptop**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always

- **desktop**
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Almost always
Future plans

• further analysis of data (national level)
• comparison among groups (level, gender, university)
• cumulative data analysis (international level)
• comparison among countries
• interpretation of findings
• drawing conclusions
• recommendations
Thanks