An information and digital literacy skills framework for Birkbeck

Birkbeck Library’s Information Literacy Framework draws on; A New Curriculum for Information Literacy (ANCIL) framework (2011) and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Framework for Information Literacy (2014). This framework seeks to develop the following skills and knowledge in our students:

1. Becoming an independent and lifelong learner
2. Navigating, searching and evaluating the information landscape
3. Developing academic skills
4. Organising and managing information
5. Using information ethically

This framework recognises that information and digital literacy skills do not stand alone, they are integral to the curriculum and the development of other critical skills that are key to student success. These skills are linked to learning outcomes and graduate attributes.

The ideal use of this framework is to embed the development of these skills in the curriculum allowing students to develop them in the context of their area of study. We know that a librarian in a face to face setting is not the only way to teach these skills, therefore a blended learning approach can be taken. The Library will develop a range of support for academics to help them embed information and digital literacy skills into the curriculum;

- Information and digital literacy skills workshop for staff
- Activities/resources that can be linked to or embedded into modules on Moodle
- Online guidance including links to examples of good practice in Birkbeck and other Universities
Understanding that information has value
Understanding copyright in an academic context
Acknowledging the work of others by citing and referencing accordingly

- Developing strategies to organise and manage information
- Using tools to organise and manage information

Developing academic skills

- Developing approaches to reading and note-taking
- Developing writing skills (general and subject specific)

Using information ethically

- Developing critical thinking skills to assess and evaluate information (considering authority and context)

Organising and managing information

Navigating, searching and evaluating the information landscape

- Using general and subject specific resources to find information
- Developing approaches to using the library and the available resources
- Understanding how these skills can be applied beyond HE

Becoming an independent and lifelong learner

- Understanding the requirements of study in HE
- Understanding how the library works

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