

Pfeiffer Library

Information Literacy Program Policy

MISSION

The mission of Pfeiffer Library includes the phrase:

“Library staff will teach students, faculty and staff to retrieve information effectively and evaluate it critically, in support of Pfeiffer University's commitment to educational excellence and lifelong learning.”

This is also the mission of our Information Literacy Program. Information Literacy is defined as the ability to recognize when information is needed and to locate, evaluate, and use information effectively.

GOALS

The following program goals are based on the *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education* published by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) in 2000.

Goal 1: Students will develop effective information search and retrieval abilities.

Objectives:

The student can:

- a. Select and use appropriate access tools (e.g., catalogs, research databases, Internet search tools, etc.) to identify and locate information sources.
- b. Evaluate search results and modify the search strategy as necessary.
- c. Locate materials both online and within the physical library.
- d. Utilize the interlibrary loan process to obtain resources owned by another library.

Goal 2: Students will develop skills to critically evaluate and select appropriate information sources.

Objectives:

The student can:

- a. Distinguish between popular and scholarly materials.
- b. Evaluate the quality of a resource using multiple criteria including authority, objectivity, and accuracy.
- c. Judge the suitability of a resource to the information need by assessing its purpose, scope, intended audience, point of view, timeliness, publication format, and relevance.

METHODS

Information literacy instruction is offered via librarian-taught sessions, an online tutorial, and individual appointments with librarians.

1. All Misenheimer students will receive instruction in their Pfeiffer Journey course (UNIV 201). Misenheimer professors are encouraged to incorporate library instruction into upper-level courses within the major, as well as any courses requiring significant research. Librarians will tailor instruction sessions to the subject and/or assignment as needed to best provide service.
2. All graduate students, regardless of location, receive instruction in a designated course within their program as follows:
 - a. MBA, MHA, MSL and combination programs: MBA 601
 - b. MMFT: MMFT 601
 - c. MAPT: MAPT 630
 - d. MAT-EE, MAT-SPED, MSEE: EDUC 601

Instruction is also encouraged for any other courses involving research. Librarians will tailor instruction sessions to the course and/or assignment as needed to best provide service.

3. Adult Studies – As SAS students transfer varying course credits into Pfeiffer, there is no one course that is taken by all students in a program. Therefore, library instruction is a mandatory part of student orientation. Instruction is also available for all SAS courses as needed. Librarians will tailor instruction sessions to the subject and/or assignment as needed to best provide service.