



A Practical Guide to Information Literacy Assessment for Academic Librarians

By Carolyn Radcliff, Mary L. Jensen, Joseph A. Salem Jr., Kenneth J. Burhanna, Julie A. Gedeon

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Information literacy assessment applies to a number of contexts in the higher education arena: institutional curricula, information literacy programs, information literacy courses, course-integrated information literacy instruction, and stand-alone information literacy workshops and online tutorials. This practical guide provides an overview of the assessment process: planning; selection and development of tools; and analysis and reporting of data. An assessment-decision chart helps readers match appropriate assessment tools and strategies with learning outcomes and instructional settings. Assessment tools, organized by type, are accompanied by case studies. Various information literacy standards are referenced, with emphasis given to ACRL's Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Throughout this guide, the authors cover formal and informal assessment techniques for use both in and outside of the classroom. Works cited and suggestions for further reading abound. Overall, this book is an excellent guide and should be required reading for all librarians implementing information literacy at their institution." - **Reference & User Services Quarterly**

"Written for academic library practitioners and administrators, this work provides advice for those who wish to determine the information literacy levels of students, whether for an entire institution, a single instructional session, and something in between. The authors (all of Kent State U.) describe the key characteristics, definitions, required resources, and processes of different assessment tools, including surveys, interviewing, focus groups, knowledge tests, concept maps, performance assessments, and portfolios. They also describe how to analyze collected data and apply results." - **Reference & Research Book News**

"By arming librarians with knowledge of the core information literacy assessment tools, the authors make significant strides in advancing information literacy assessment. As an instructional text, the guide is clearly structured and eminently readable, and both beginning and veteran librarians will find this resource accessible, either as a cover-to-cover read or as a scan able handbook. Consequently, the work is a valuable resource and complement to the journal literature in the area of information literacy assessment." - **Library & Information Science Research**

"Assessment is an important topic for all academic libraries and one that can be challenging to both understand and to implement. This book does that and more in an immensely well-written and accessible guide to the subject of assessment for academic librarians...This is an essential title for every academic library engaged in information literacy instruction. Its comprehensive yet easy-to-understand presentation will guide both the uninitiated and the experienced librarian in choosing and implementing appropriate assessment measures." - **ARBA**

"A consistent strength of this book is the clear layout, with the use of icons for key indicators such as time, money, level, domain and access to participants, degree of academic collaboration and the need for outside expertise. . . . A secondary benefit is the comprehensive way each theme is addressed with sections, which could be used to help social research enquirers who are concerned about methodology. The clarity of the text is enhanced by diagrams and tables and figures." - **Library Review**

About the Author

Carolyn J. Radcliff is Associate Professor in Libraries and Media Services and Reference and Instruction Librarian at Kent State University.

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