

Learning Outcomes

- A. Describe the nature and extent of the information needed for a particular project or assignment.**
- B. Identify appropriate information sources and access needed information effectively and efficiently.**
- C. Articulate and apply criteria for evaluating both gathered information and its sources.**
- D. Engage in self-correcting searching behaviors during the stages of the research process based on a cycle of search/ results analysis.**
- E. Demonstrate ability to conform to conventions relating to copyright and citation practice.**

The Assessment Team:

Libraries:

- * Urban Affairs Liaison Librarian
- * Head of Libraries Instruction
- * Library Assessment Graduate Intern
- * Head of Libraries Assessment
- * Libraries Instructional Designer

Urban Affairs/Communication Studies:

- * Communication Studies Basic Course
Director/Professor in Residence
- * Adjunct Faculty & Graduate Asst.

Phase I Student Results:

99% of the students were able to choose a keyword for their topic; **84%** were able to evaluate the information by identifying the author and affiliation; **88%** correctly identified the presence of a bibliography and could identify the article as popular or scholarly; **96%** provided satisfactory feedback when asked if they engaged in self-correcting search behavior; **44%** used citation format correctly.

Although the students did fairly well (except citation practice), the quiz was structured more like a guide than an assessment instrument.

Phase II Student Results:

93% formulated a question based on their information need correctly; **65%** identified key concepts and terms to describe their information need; **78%** recognized that knowledge is organized into disciplines by browsing and using different databases; **53%** chose the best database for their topic; **84%** constructed two satisfactory searches using Boolean Logic; **70%** recognized the presence or absence of a bibliography and **64%** correctly determined if their article was scholarly or popular and defend their declaration adequately; **13%** of students correctly cited an article using APA format; **57%** correctly cited articles using Chicago Manual style format.