2021 Information Literacy Fellows Scholarship

Call for Applications

**Background**

The New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) enacted a statewide restructuring of the General Education (GenEd) program. Five GenEd essential skills came out of this, including information and digital literacy. GenEd courses that include the essential skill of information and digital literacy ([Area 1 Communication](https://gened.unm.edu/areas-of-study/index.html) and [Area 5 Humanities](https://gened.unm.edu/areas-of-study/humanities.html)) should begin to prepare students for upper division college courses, the workplace, and civic life. Information literacy spans across all disciplines and develops learners’ abilities to evaluate, access, use, and create information -- skills all the more vital in today’s information saturated environment. Moreover, students should understand how information *works* including the societal forces that shape and circulate it.[[1]](#footnote-1)

**The challenge and opportunity**

The UNM Office of Assessment & APR (OA/APR) completed a [pilot assessment report](http://assessment.unm.edu/assets/documents/19-20-ge-report.pdf) of the new General Education programming required by the NMHED. A key finding was that the IDL essential skill had the lowest overall ratings. The report “noted that although the student may have performed well within the assignment, the rating was low because the assignment did not align with the rubric.” The OA/APR recommended training and support for faculty and TAs teaching GenEd programming.

**Information & Digital Literacy Workshop Series**

If you are a graduate teaching assistant who teaches general education courses at UNM in Area 1 or 5, we invite you to participate in the 2021 Information Literacy Fellows Scholarship (IFLS), Information & Digital Literacy (IDL) Workshop Series. Participants will learn about the dimensions that comprise the IDL Essential Skill, become more confident in teaching IDL skills to GenEd students, and (re)design assignments/assessments to facilitate student development of IDL skills. Participants will have the opportunity to work with and receive support from IDL experts from the UNM University Libraries as well as by engaging with fellow attendees.

Each workshop focuses on one dimension in the IDL skill and participants will commit four hours of total work per workshop; two-hours in a synchronous workshop plus two-hours of asynchronous work. The schedule is:

* *Information structures* -- Tuesday August 3, 10am-12pm
* *Authority and the value of information* -- Tuesday August 10, 10am-12pm
* *Research as Inquiry* -- Tuesday August 17, 10am-12pm

**Information Literacy Fellows Scholarship**

Workshop attendees will begin to learn the skills necessary to incorporate information literacy into their classes and complete a successful application for the ILF scholarship. Each IDL skill area will require a separate scholarship application -- successful applicants will receive $100 per skill area, up to $300.

**To apply, begin by registering for 1-3 of the IDL workshops below. More information about the requirements for the scholarship will be shared in the process of attending the workshops.**

* [Information Structures](https://elibrary.unm.edu/services/instruction/information-digital-literacy/information-structures.php), Tuesday August 3, 10am-12pm

Select, use, produce, organize, and share information employing appropriate information formats, collections, systems, and applications.

* [Authority and Value of Information](https://elibrary.unm.edu/services/instruction/information-digital-literacy/authority-and-value.php), Tuesday August 10, 10am-12pm

Recognize the interdependent nature of the authority and value of information and use this knowledge ethically when selecting, using, and creating information.

* [Research as Inquiry](https://elibrary.unm.edu/services/instruction/information-digital-literacy/research-as-inquiry.php), Tuesday August 17, 10am-12pm

Engage in an iterative process of inquiry that defines a problem or poses a question and through research generates a reasonable solution or answer.

1. Fister, B. (2021). Lizard People in the Library. *Project Information Literacy Provocation Series*.

 <https://projectinfolit.org/pubs/provocation-series/essays/lizard-people-in-the-library.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)