NSSE 2024 Topical Module Report

Experiences with Information Literacy

Stetson University

Updated for NSSE 2024, this module was developed in collaboration with college and university librarians from the Association of College & Research Libraries. Items focus on students' use of information sources, research-based inquiry, and experiences traditionally associated with research libraries. It complements questions on the core survey about reflective & integrative learning, higher-order learning, and assigned reading and writing.

Comparison group details are in the online Selected Comparison Groups report, linked in the Data & Reports table on the Institution Interface. A PDF copy is also saved in your report download folder.

This page intentionally left blank.

NSSE 2024 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Stetson University

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a] Stetson Count	Stetson %	Information Literacy Count	Information Literacy %	Statistical Comparisons[b] Stetson Mean	Information Literacy Mean	Effect size[d]
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Completed an assignment using an information source (book, article, website, etc.) other than required course readings	INLsource	1	Never	3	2	39	3			
		2	Sometimes	39	22	403	26			
		3	Often	65	37	596	38	**3.1**	3.0	.14
		4	Very often	71	39	572	33			
			Total	178	100	1,610	100			
b. Completed an assignment using a library's physical or digital collection of articles, books, or journals (JSTOR, EBSCO, LexisNexis, ProQuest, InterLibrary Loan, etc.)	INLcollection	1	Never	32	18	402	25			
		2	Sometimes	63	35	562	36			
		3	Often	47	27	396	24	**2.5**	2.3 * △	.18
		4	Very often	37	20	254	15			
			Total	179	100	1,614	100			
c. Received help from the library (met with a librarian, used the library's chat service, etc.)	INLhelp	1	Never	66	37	882	55			
		2	Sometimes	64	36	459	28			
		3	Often	33	19	176	11	**2.0**	1.7 *** ▲	.34
		4	Very often	16	8	97	6			
			Total	179	100	1,614	100			
d. Changed the focus of a paper or project based on information you found while researching the topic	INLfocus	1	Never	25	14	312	19			
		2	Sometimes	75	43	717	46			
		3	Often	55	32	429	26	**2.4**	2.2 ** △	.21
		4	Very often	23	12	153	9			
			Total	178	100	1,611	100			
e. Looked for an information source that was cited in something you read	INLcited	1	Never	12	6	221	13			
		2	Sometimes	71	42	572	37			
		3	Often	58	34	549	34	**2.7**	2.5	.15
		4	Very often	36	19	270	16			
			Total	177	100	1,612	100			
f. Evaluated an information source by conducting additional research	INLevaladd	1	Never	16	8	156	10			
		2	Sometimes	70	41	600	38			
		3	Often	51	30	603	38	**2.6**	2.6	.09
		4	Very often	38	21	248	15			
			Total	175	100	1,607	100			
g. Identified information that was biased, misleading, or deceptive	INLbiased	1	Never	22	11	217	14			
		2	Sometimes	89	51	626	39			
		3	Often	40	23	538	34	**2.4**	2.5	-.07
		4	Very often	26	14	229	13			
			Total	177	100	1,610	100			
h. Decided not to use an information source in a course assignment due to its questionable quality	INLquesqual	1	Never	23	13	222	16			
		2	Sometimes	73	40	666	40			
		3	Often	55	32	492	31	**2.5**	2.4	.07
		4	Very often	26	15	230	13			
			Total	177	100	1,610	100			
i. Referred to an information source you found on social media for an assignment	INLsocmed	1	Never	87	49	822	53			
		2	Sometimes	50	29	426	26			
		3	Often	23	14	256	15	**1.8**	1.7	.08
		4	Very often	16	9	104	6			
			Total	176	100	1,608	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

NSSE 2024 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Stetson University

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a] Stetson Count	Stetson %	Information Literacy Count	Information Literacy %	Statistical Comparisons[b] Stetson Mean	Information Literacy Mean	Effect size[d]
j. Consulted with an expert as an information source (on campus, in community)	INLexpert	1	Never	77	46	804	51	**1.9**	1.7	.15
		2	Sometimes	49	28	464	28			
		3	Often	32	19	239	15			
		4	Very often	15	8	100	6			
			Total	173	100	1,607	100			
k. Coached or mentored a classmate or peer with research for their course assignment	INLcoach	1	Never	74	41	851	55	**1.9**	1.7 * △	.18
		2	Sometimes	66	37	422	25			
		3	Often	28	17	248	15			
		4	Very often	10	5	90	5			
			Total	178	100	1,611	100			

2. Which of the following have you done while in college or do you plan to do before you graduate?[j]

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	Stetson Count	Stetson %	Information Literacy Count	Information Literacy %	Stetson Mean	Information Literacy Mean	Effect size[d]
a. Attend a campus-sponsored session about conducting research (instructional session with a librarian, writing center for help with a research paper, a library or department workshop, etc.)	INLsession *(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Done or in progress.")*	Have not decided	54	30	552	35	**18%**	16%	.04
		Do not plan to do	30	19	314	20			
		Plan to do	51	30	408	24			
		Done or in progress	35	18	262	16			
		To my knowledge is not available	6	3	75	5			
		Total	176	100	1,611	100			
b. Present, publish, or publicly share the results of your research, scholarly activity, or creative work to an audience beyond your classmates (on- or off-campus academic conference, exhibition, research journal, literary magazine, professional blog, etc.)	INLshare *(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Done or in progress.")*	Have not decided	67	38	572	37	**7%**	4%	.11
		Do not plan to do	24	15	487	31			
		Plan to do	63	36	399	23			
		Done or in progress	13	7	81	4			
		To my knowledge is not available	8	4	68	5			
		Total	175	100	1,607	100			
c. Use library resources for a non-academic task (leisure reading, researching jobs, watching films, etc.)	INLnonacad *(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Done or in progress.")*	Have not decided	49	28	445	29	**21%**	17%	.08
		Do not plan to do	29	17	323	21			
		Plan to do	59	33	498	31			
		Done or in progress	36	21	304	17			
		To my knowledge is not available	3	2	38	2			
		Total	176	100	1,608	100			

NSSE 2024 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Stetson University

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a] Stetson Count	Stetson %	Information Literacy Count	Information Literacy %	Statistical Comparisons[b] Stetson Mean	Information Literacy Mean	Effect size[d]
3. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?										
a. Understanding the research and writing styles or practices of your major or field of study	INLdevstyle	0	Not at all	5	2	37	3	2.7	2.5 * △	.18
		1	Very little	6	4	180	11			
		2	Some	62	36	485	31			
		3	Quite a bit	67	37	641	40			
		4	Very much	36	21	264	15			
			Total	176	100	1,607	100			
a. Developming information and research management strategies (note-taking, using citation software, document organization, etc.)	INLdevstrat	0	Not at all	6	3	51	4	2.7	2.5 * △	.18
		1	Very little	11	6	180	12			
		2	Some	54	32	475	32			
		3	Quite a bit	63	35	599	36			
		4	Very much	41	24	300	18			
			Total	175	100	1,605	100			
a. Developing your own research skills to identify correct information for personal reasons (not related to your courses)	INLdevpers	0	Not at all	13	7	78	5	2.6	2.4 * △	.19
		1	Very little	14	7	231	14			
		2	Some	55	31	508	33			
		3	Quite a bit	57	33	560	34			
		4	Very much	38	22	229	14			
			Total	177	100	1,606	100			
a. Keeping an open mind when encountering opposing perspectives during your research	INLdevopen	0	Not at all	6	4	29	2	2.9	2.8	.08
		1	Very little	8	4	101	6			
		2	Some	43	24	411	28			
		3	Quite a bit	67	38	635	38			
		4	Very much	53	30	430	26			
			Total	177	100	1,606	100			

NSSE 2024 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Stetson University

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a]				Statistical Comparisons[b]		
				Stetson		Information Literacy		Stetson	Information Literacy	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size[d]
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Completed an assignment using an information source (book, article, website, etc.) other than required course readings	INLsource	1	Never	2	2	38	2	3.4	3.1 ** △	.27
		2	Sometimes	21	16	317	22			
		3	Often	36	28	551	35			
		4	Very often	79	55	627	41			
			Total	138	100	1,533	100			
b. Completed an assignment using a library's physical or digital collection of articles, books, or journals (JSTOR, EBSCO, LexisNexis, ProQuest, InterLibrary Loan, etc.)	INLcollection	1	Never	18	13	373	23	2.8	2.4 *** ▲	.38
		2	Sometimes	36	27	453	32			
		3	Often	31	22	394	24			
		4	Very often	53	38	313	21			
			Total	138	100	1,533	100			
c. Received help from the library (met with a librarian, used the library's chat service, etc.)	INLhelp	1	Never	60	42	919	57	2.0	1.7 *** ▲	.35
		2	Sometimes	39	29	375	27			
		3	Often	25	18	144	10			
		4	Very often	14	10	93	6			
			Total	138	100	1,531	100			
d. Changed the focus of a paper or project based on information you found while researching the topic	INLfocus	1	Never	17	12	331	20	2.6	2.3 *** ▲	.36
		2	Sometimes	50	37	673	43			
		3	Often	44	32	380	26			
		4	Very often	26	19	144	10			
			Total	137	100	1,528	100			
e. Looked for an information source that was cited in something you read	INLcited	1	Never	11	8	201	13	3.0	2.6 *** ▲	.38
		2	Sometimes	32	23	509	33			
		3	Often	46	33	531	34			
		4	Very often	48	36	289	20			
			Total	137	100	1,530	100			
f. Evaluated an information source by conducting additional research	INLevaladd	1	Never	12	9	173	11	2.9	2.7 ** △	.28
		2	Sometimes	34	23	492	32			
		3	Often	48	36	577	38			
		4	Very often	43	32	285	19			
			Total	137	100	1,527	100			
g. Identified information that was biased, misleading, or deceptive	INLbiased	1	Never	10	7	231	13	2.7	2.5 ** △	.29
		2	Sometimes	51	37	632	42			
		3	Often	43	33	446	29			
		4	Very often	32	23	216	15			
			Total	136	100	1,525	100			
h. Decided not to use an information source in a course assignment due to its questionable quality	INLquesqual	1	Never	8	6	229	15	2.7	2.4 *** ▲	.38
		2	Sometimes	53	39	661	44			
		3	Often	40	29	409	25			
		4	Very often	35	26	228	15			
			Total	136	100	1,527	100			
i. Referred to an information source you found on social media for an assignment	INLsocmed	1	Never	58	43	837	56	1.9	1.7 ** △	.27
		2	Sometimes	46	33	389	27			
		3	Often	17	12	197	11			
		4	Very often	16	11	99	6			
			Total	137	100	1,522	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

NSSE 2024 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Stetson University

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a] Stetson Count	%	Information Literacy Count	%	Statistical Comparisons[b] Stetson Mean	Information Literacy Mean	Effect size[d]
j. Consulted with an expert as an information source (on campus, in community)	INLexpert	1	Never	33	23	698	47			
		2	Sometimes	55	41	494	32			
		3	Often	27	20	229	14	2.3	1.8 *** ▲	.53
		4	Very often	22	16	105	7			
			Total	137	100	1,526	100			
k. Coached or mentored a classmate or peer with research for their course assignment	INLcoach	1	Never	39	29	745	52			
		2	Sometimes	52	38	448	28			
		3	Often	25	18	234	13	2.2	1.7 *** ▲	.51
		4	Very often	21	15	101	6			
			Total	137	100	1,528	100			

2. Which of the following have you done while in college or do you plan to do before you graduate?[j]

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	Frequency Distributions[a] Stetson Count	%	Information Literacy Count	%	Statistical Comparisons[b] Stetson Mean	Information Literacy Mean	Effect size[d]
a. Attend a campus-sponsored session about conducting research (instructional session with a librarian, writing center for help with a research paper, a library or department workshop, etc.)	INLsession *(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Done or in progress.")*	Have not decided	16	11	297	19			
		Do not plan to do	39	31	651	42			
		Plan to do	14	10	147	9	43%	20% ▲	.49
		Done or in progress	61	43	309	20			
		To my knowledge is not available	6	5	124	9			
		Total	136	100	1,528	100			
b. Present, publish, or publicly share the results of your research, scholarly activity, or creative work to an audience beyond your classmates (on- or off-campus academic conference, exhibition, research journal, literary magazine, professional blog, etc.	INLshare *(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Done or in progress.")*	Have not decided	14	9	272	18			
		Do not plan to do	40	31	693	45			
		Plan to do	29	22	207	13	32%	17% ▲	.35
		Done or in progress	47	32	266	17			
		To my knowledge is not available	6	5	88	7			
		Total	136	100	1,526	100			
c. Use library resources for a non-academic task (leisure reading, researching jobs, watching films, etc.)	INLnonacad *(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Done or in progress.")*	Have not decided	26	18	274	17			
		Do not plan to do	38	28	655	41			
		Plan to do	13	11	188	12	39%	26% △	.28
		Done or in progress	56	39	354	26			
		To my knowledge is not available	4	4	55	4			
		Total	137	100	1,526	100			

NSSE 2024 Experiences with Information Literacy
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Stetson University

Seniors

| | | | | Frequency Distributions[a] | | | | Statistical Comparisons[b] | | |
| | | | | Stetson | | Information Literacy | | Stetson | Information Literacy | |
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values[c]	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size[d]
3. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?										
a. Understanding the research and writing styles or practices of your major or field of study	INLdevstyle	0	Not at all	1	1	27	2	**3.2** ▲	2.8 ***	.41
		1	Very little	4	3	93	6			
		2	Some	19	14	341	23			
		3	Quite a bit	48	34	641	41			
		4	Very much	65	48	426	28			
			Total	137	100	1,528	100			
a. Developming information and research management strategies (note-taking, using citation software, document organization, etc.)	INLdevstrat	0	Not at all	3	2	33	3	**3.1** ▲	2.7 ***	.37
		1	Very little	6	4	124	9			
		2	Some	25	18	386	26			
		3	Quite a bit	42	32	598	38			
		4	Very much	60	43	382	25			
			Total	136	100	1,523	100			
a. Developing your own research skills to identify correct information for personal reasons (not related to your courses)	INLdevpers	0	Not at all	5	4	65	5	**2.9** ▲	2.6 ***	.30
		1	Very little	8	5	159	10			
		2	Some	36	28	430	30			
		3	Quite a bit	34	25	530	33			
		4	Very much	54	39	339	22			
			Total	137	100	1,523	100			
a. Keeping an open mind when encountering opposing perspectives during your research	INLdevopen	0	Not at all	1	1	35	3	**3.1** △	2.9 **	.27
		1	Very little	2	1	82	5			
		2	Some	31	22	347	24			
		3	Quite a bit	44	33	577	35			
		4	Very much	59	42	485	32			
			Total	137	100	1,526	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error[f]		Standard deviation[g]		DF[h]	Sig.[i]	Effect size[d]
	Stetson	Stetson	Information Literacy	Stetson	Information Literacy	Stetson	Information Literacy	Comparisons with: Information Literacy		
INLsource	175	3.14	3.02	.061	.014	.81	.84	3,831	.071	.14
INLcollection	176	2.48	2.30	.076	.017	1.00	1.01	3,841	.018	.18
INLhelp	176	1.98	1.67	.071	.015	.94	.89	3,842	.000	.34
INLfocus	174	2.42	2.24	.066	.014	.87	.86	3,827	.008	.21
INLcited	174	2.66	2.53	.065	.015	.85	.92	3,839	.059	.15
INLevaladd	171	2.64	2.57	.070	.014	.91	.86	3,819	.273	.09
INLbiased	174	2.40	2.46	.066	.015	.87	.89	3,824	.346	-.07
INLquesqual	174	2.48	2.42	.068	.015	.90	.91	3,831	.352	.07
INLsocmed	173	1.82	1.75	.074	.015	.97	.93	3,826	.323	.08
INLexpert	170	1.88	1.74	.074	.015	.97	.90	3,822	.050	.15
INLcoach	174	1.86	1.70	.067	.015	.88	.90	3,831	.019	.18
INLsession[k]	173	18%	16%	.029	.006	--	--	--	.566	.04
INLshare[k]	172	7%	4%	.019	.003	--	--	--	.193	.11
INLnonacad[k]	173	21%	17%	.031	.006	--	--	--	.292	.08
INLdevstyle	172	2.71	2.53	.070	.016	.92	.97	3,817	.020	.18
INLdevstrat	172	2.71	2.52	.076	.017	1.00	1.03	3,818	.018	.18
INLdevpers	174	2.57	2.36	.085	.017	1.12	1.05	3,814	.014	.19
INLdevopen	174	2.87	2.79	.077	.016	1.02	.97	3,813	.296	.08

NSSE 2024 Experiences with Information Literacy

Detailed Statistics[e]
Stetson University

Seniors

Variable name	N Stetson	Mean Stetson	Mean Information Literacy	Standard error[f] Stetson	Standard error[f] Information Literacy	Standard deviation[g] Stetson	Standard deviation[g] Information Literacy	DF[h]	Sig.[i] Comparisons with: Information Literacy	Effect size[d]
INLsource	135	3.37	3.14	.069	.015	.80	.84	3,115	.002	.27
INLcollection	135	2.85	2.44	.093	.019	1.08	1.06	3,110	.000	.38
INLhelp	135	1.97	1.65	.087	.016	1.01	.89	3,097	.000	.35
INLfocus	134	2.59	2.26	.080	.016	.93	.89	3,095	.000	.36
INLcited	134	2.97	2.61	.082	.017	.95	.95	3,108	.000	.38
INLevaladd	134	2.91	2.65	.082	.017	.95	.92	3,096	.002	.28
INLbiased	134	2.72	2.46	.078	.017	.90	.90	3,088	.001	.29
INLquesqual	134	2.75	2.39	.079	.017	.91	.92	3,093	.000	.38
INLsocmed	134	1.92	1.67	.087	.017	1.00	.90	3,083	.002	.27
INLexpert	134	2.29	1.80	.086	.017	1.00	.92	3,095	.000	.53
INLcoach	134	2.20	1.74	.088	.017	1.02	.91	3,098	.000	.51
INLsession[k]	134	43%	20%	.043	.007	--	--	--	.000	.49
INLshare[k]	134	32%	17%	.041	.007	--	--	--	.000	.35
INLnonacad[k]	134	39%	26%	.042	.008	--	--	--	.003	.28
INLdevstyle	134	3.25	2.85	.075	.018	.87	.98	3,097	.000	.41
INLdevstrat	134	3.10	2.73	.086	.019	.99	1.01	3,082	.000	.37
INLdevpers	134	2.91	2.57	.094	.020	1.09	1.09	3,079	.001	.30
INLdevopen	134	3.15	2.87	.076	.019	.88	1.02	3,090	.002	.27

Endnotes

a.   Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts. Comparison group details are in the Selected Comparison Groups report, linked in the Data & Reports table on the Institution Interface.

b.   All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t-tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.

c.   These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.

d.   Effect size for independent t-tests uses Cohen's d; z-tests use Cohen's h.

e.   Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.

f.   The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.

g.   A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.

h.   Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values differ from Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.

i.   Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t-tests or z-tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.

j.   Statistical comparison uses z-test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.

k.   Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

Key to symbols:

▲   **Your students' average** was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

△   **Your students' average** was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

▽   **Your students' average** was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

▼   **Your students' average** was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context. You may not see all of these symbols in your report.