

Policy Title:	<b>Information Literacy Policy</b>

**1. Policy Statement**

The University of Niagara Falls (UNF) Library recognizes the critical role information literacy plays in academic excellence and lifelong learning. We are committed to fostering an environment that promotes and integrates information literacy throughout every student’s academic journey.

**2. Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this policy is to emphasize the importance of information literacy and outline the approaches used to teach and engage students to ensure they have the skills required to achieve academic excellence and enter the workforce with strong information literacy skills. This policy applies to students and to all faculty and staff involved in teaching and the use of any information used to support University activities.

**3. Definition and Importance**

The Library defines information literacy as the ability to locate, evaluate, organize, use, and communicate information in all available formats ethically and with a thorough understanding of its significance.

Information literacy is a key academic skill and highly transferrable to the professional and personal lives of the UNF community, especially in today’s digital landscape. By critically evaluating information and its sources, information literate individuals are empowered to make informed and strategic decisions.

**4. Implementation**

The Library collaborates with faculty and staff to embed information literacy into the curriculum to ensure seamless integration and learning. Faculty are responsible for ensuring that information literacy components are built into the course objectives. Methods of delivery will vary between courses as appropriate for the subject area.

The Library supports faculty in collaboration with the Centre for Teaching Excellence (CTE) in their lifelong learning journey, and assists them in cultivating their own information literacy skills and developing course content around information literacy.

Any UNF community member, including faculty, staff, and students may consult the Information Literacy LibGuide on the Library’s website to support their learning. They may also make an appointment with a Library staff member for additional support.

All course material and Library resources on information literacy support the following objectives:

- Graduates recognize the importance of information and information literacy
- Graduates possess the necessary skills to critically evaluate information and information sources, and understand its social, political, and economic significance
- Graduates can efficiently access, store, and manipulate information
- Graduates can effectively use information to make strategic and engaged decisions both in their professional and personal lives

**5. Responsibility**

The implementation of the Information Literacy policy is the responsibility of the University Librarian, Instruction Librarians, and other Library staff, in collaboration with faculty and program Associate Deans.

**6. Revision of Policy**

This Information Literacy policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with UNF's goals and values.