

Library Podcast Interview with Michael Rose

(Opening Music, Introductory Remarks)

Michael is a reference librarian at the JT campus; will be talking about the definition of information literacy and why information is important.

Why is information literacy important?

Information literacy is important firstly for helping you improve your academic performance while at GTCC. But it will also be important for the rest of your life outside of college as well-it is not just a library or academic term. We live in a world where information in multiple formats is ever increasing. Making the right decisions about information for work and family is important towards working to a better life for you and your family.

How will a person know when they are information literate?

2 definitions.

Plattsburg State University – Recognize when information is needed, and be able to locate, evaluate and to ethically use information in various formats.

The second comes from 2 college associations – The information literate student is able to determine the nature and extent of information needed, recognize the need for information, access and collect information effectively, evaluate information and its sources effectively and critically, incorporate information into his knowledge base and values system, gather and information for the associated purpose, understand social, economic, and legal issues related to information, and access and use information ethically and legally.

Examples

Classroom – use information literacy to investigate a topic assigned in class in 2 different databases, and then compare how the information is presented.

A term paper – Use a list of approved sources from multiple formats, provide citations for each source, and submit the paper online in a very specific computer file format.

In the workplace

You have a task assigned to you at job to reorganize a workspace You will have to analyze the workflow for the office environment, make best use of space, look at sources to select furniture and carpet, find a reputable source for this furniture and carpet, and during this be submitting purchase orders in several file formats to your manager to get the purchases approved. In this scenario you are using several information literacy concepts.

A short definition – Information literacy forms the basis for life-long learning. When in the job market employers are looking for candidates that know how to find information, evaluate it, and use it effectively in that job field. This process will never stop – you will always be required to gather specialized information to continue be effective and advance in your field.

Is being information literate just about knowing how to use a computer, or is there more to it?

In 2015 computer proficiency is certainly part of being information literate, but there is much more to being information literate than technology. Technology should be thought of as a means to an end- technological proficiency should not be confused with being information literate.

For example you must be able to access information in multiple formats, not just computer based information.

Another example – At some point in life you have record information that you will have to make a decision about to store these records-digital or print, how to make back-up copies, either digital or print.

Technology will be part of modern life hence forth and forevermore.

Main point

The beginnings of the becoming an information literate person may begin in college, but these skills will have to be improved and sought after through life. Being and becoming an information literate person will serve you well in every area of life-personal, familial, professional, and social –throughout life.

(Closing remarks and music)