

Digital Literacy

Dr. P.S. Rajput
Asstt. Professor & In-Charge Head
Deptt. Of Library and Information Science
MLSU, Udaipur

Digital Literacy

Develop critical thinking skills and use web tools such as search engine, listing of favorite sites, mailing lists etc. Electronic information literacy will therefore be defined as follows-

“A set of digital abilities requiring individuals to recognize when digital information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, organize and effectively use the needed digital information in an ethical and legal way.”

WHAT IS DIGITAL LITERACY?

Spires and Bartlett (2012) have divided the various intellectual processes associated with digital literacy into three categories:

- (a) locating and consuming digital content,
- (b) creating digital content, and
- (c) communicating digital content

Gilster (1997) defined digital literacy as the “ability to understand and use information in multiple formats from a wide range of sources when it is presented via computers”

DIGITAL LITERACY

1

PRACTICAL AND
FUNCTIONAL SKILLS



2

CRITICAL THINKING
AND EVALUATION



3

E-SAFETY



4

CULTURAL AND SOCIAL



5

COLLABORATION

6

ABILITY TO FIND AND
SELECT INFORMATION

7

EFFECTIVE
COMMUNICATION

8

CREATIVITY

“Digital or Electronic Information Literacy is also called as Digital Information Fluency. Digital Information Fluency (DIF) is the ability to find, evaluate and use digital information effectively, efficiently and ethically. DIF involves knowing how digital information is different from print information having the skills to use specialized tools for finding digital information and developing the dispositions needed in the digital information environment.” (21st Century Digital information Fluency (DIF) project and model 2011).

Cu

Cultural

HOW TO BEHAVE

Cg

Cognitive

HOW TO DO

Cn

Constructive

HOW TO USE

Co

Communicative

HOW TO
COMMUNICATE

THE **8** ELEMENTS OF DIGITAL LITERACY

Cf

Confident

HOW TO BELONG

Cr

Creative

HOW TO MAKE

Ct

Critical

HOW TO EVALUATE

Ci

Civic

HOW TO
PARTICIPATE

Adapted from Belshaw, D. (2014). The Essential elements of digital literacies. Retrieved from <http://digitalliteraci.es>

Cultural: *how to behave*

Understanding the culture (history, language, customs and values etc) of the internet and digital environments by:

- Knowing how to behave online; from netiquette to protection and privacy.
- Recognising the difference between personal and professional use.
- Understanding how internet culture is expressed and transmitted through phenomena such as memes, emojis and animated gifs.
- Being able to seamlessly adjust to the different social environments of various applications.
- Understanding how online environments have changed the meaning of words such as expertise, publishing and sharing.

Cognitive: *how to do*

The Cognitive element incorporates what we know of as computer literacy or IT skills with an understanding of the key concepts.

- Having the ability to use a range of devices, software platforms and interfaces.
- Recognising common features across digital tools such as navigation menus, settings, and profiles.
- Understanding concepts such as tagging, hashtags, and sharing.

Constructive: *how to use*

The Constructive element involves knowing what it means to ‘construct’ something in a digital environment; how content can be appropriated, reused and remixed.

- Knowing how to responsibly use and build upon someone else’s work.
- Respecting copyright and understanding the concepts of remix and reuse.
- Being familiar with the various Creative Commons’ licences.

Communicative: *how to communicate*

The Communicative element is about as the name suggests, how to communicate in digital environments. For example:

- Knowing the purpose of various online tools and how they are different or similar to each other.
- Being familiar with the communication norms and expectations of various online tools.
- Understanding what identity, sharing, influence and trust mean in digital spaces.

Confident: *how to belong*

In order participate confidently online we need to feel as if we belong.

This involves:

- Understanding and capitalising upon the ways in which the online world differs from the offline world.
- Reflecting on one's learning in digital spaces.
- Being part of an online community.

Creative: *how to make*

The Creative element refers to creating new things which add value where the focus is more on the *value created* than the *act of creating* something new. For example:

- Learning how to do things in new ways using online tools and environments.
- Imaginatively and critically thinking about how we create and share knowledge using digital technologies.
- Knowing how to curate digital content to create value for readers.

Critical: *how to evaluate*

The Critical element is probably the element that is most familiar to those of us working in the library and information profession as it most closely relates to both information literacy and the research process.

- Using reasoning skills to question, analyse, scrutinise and evaluate digital content, tools and applications.
- Knowing how to search effectively.
- Being able to distinguish credible sources from less credible ones.

Civic: *how to participate*

The Civic element refers to individuals having the knowledge and ability to use digital environments to self-organise; to be part of a movement bigger than themselves. For example:

- Understanding one's digital rights and responsibilities.
- Participating in social movements or the democratic process online
- Preparing both ourselves and others to participate fully in society.

*Any
Question*

A decorative frame consisting of four corner elements. Each element is a thin black line forming a right-angled corner, with a diagonal brown line extending from the vertex towards the center of the page. The corners are located at the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right of the page.

Thanks