



FY23

Information Literacy Report

September 2023

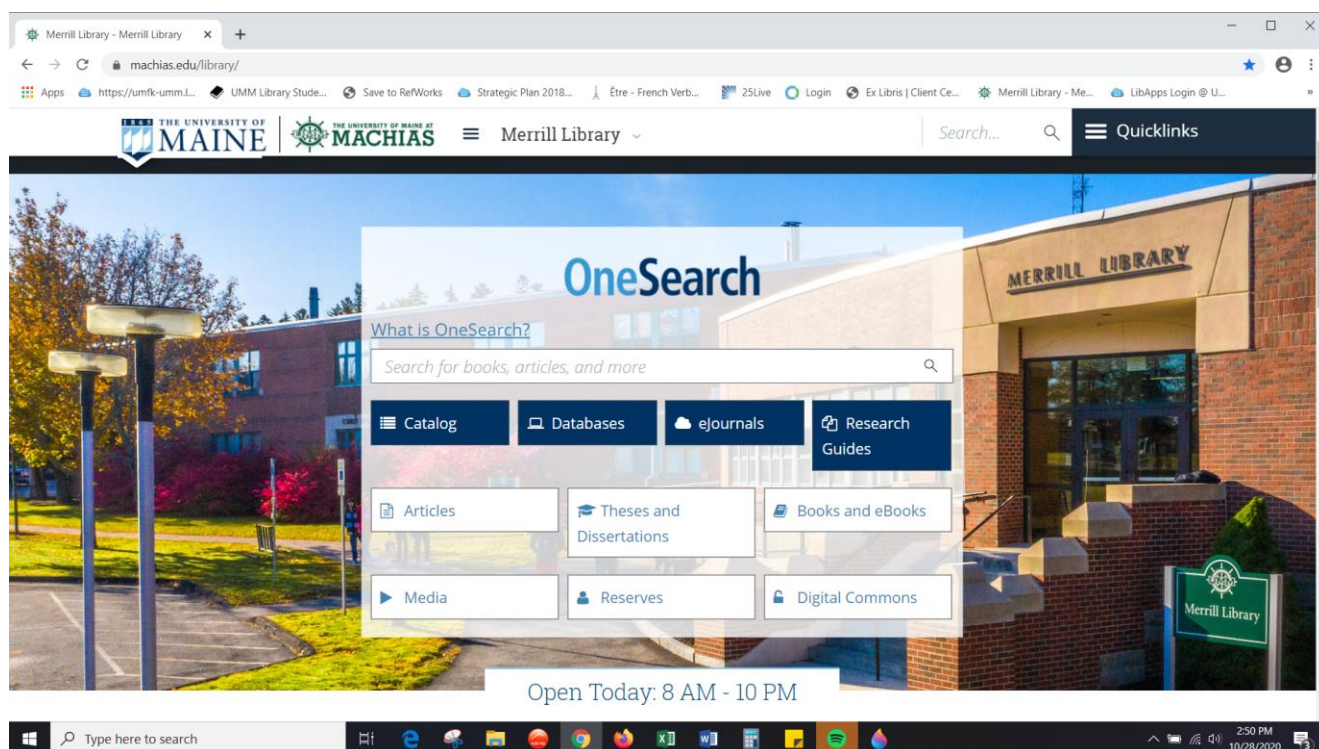
Information Literacy is an umbrella term used to group the fundamental concepts, skills, and practices required to navigate and authenticate the explosive amounts and formats of information which we all encounter day in and day out. There are six core concepts that the Merrill Library librarians at the University of Maine at Machias use, adopted from [ACRL's Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](#) to guide the teaching and acquisition of Information Literacy skills at UMM. The “frames” are: Authority Is Constructed and Contextual, Information Creation as a Process, Information Has Value, Research as Inquiry, Scholarship as Conversation, and Searching as Strategic Exploration.

While there is not a required “library” course, faculty request Information Literacy/Instruction sessions for specific classes and skill sets. The librarian and the faculty member meet to discuss the resources and skills required for the successful completion of a specific assignment. The librarian then creates a lesson plan that focuses on the specific skills and tools required for the student to be successful in fulfilling assignment requirements.

In addition to the “one-shot” sessions described above, librarians are available to be “embedded” in classes. A series of lessons and graded assignments are designed to introduce students to the various steps in the research process including the use of the catalog, research databases, citation management tools, interlibrary loan, and formatting a paper in the required format, i.e. APA, MLA, etc.

The librarians also create web-based research guides and specific course guides. These guides are found on the Merrill Library website by clicking on the blue rectangle

titled Research Guides. Librarians are available in person, via email, phone, chat, zoom, and by appointment.



Information Literacy Statistics for Fiscal Years 2023 - 2015 are presented below:

Fiscal Year 2023

- Sessions embedded in a class **4**
- Total students reached **38**
- Total unique students reached **38**
- Total number of unique classes visited **4**
- Free standing **0**
- Total reference sessions **66**
- There were 136 one-on-one reference sessions
- There were 834 views of online guides

Fiscal Year 2022

- Librarians conducted a total of 9 instruction sessions with 134 students in attendance.
- There were 257 one-on-one sessions.
- There were 279 views of online guides.

***Fiscal Year 2021**

- Librarians conducted a total of **1 instruction session delivered via Zoom with 15 students in attendance.
- There were 160 one-on-one reference sessions using phone, email, chat, and Zoom.
- There were 1414 views of online guides.

*UMM campus had low Fall and Spring enrollment numbers of approximately 302 FTE.

**Contributing factors to the decline in the number of instruction sections may be due to low enrollment in on campus courses and the hesitancy of instructors to invite librarians to present in a virtual course delivery environment.

***Fiscal Year 2020**

- Librarians conducted a total of **8 instruction sessions with 177 students in attendance.
- There were 142 one-on-one reference sessions using phone, email, chat, and Zoom.
- There were 5045 views of online guides.

*UMM Campus transitioned to online learning and the Merrill Library collections and services were delivered remotely beginning on March 19, 2020 through the end of FY20 due to Covid-19 pandemic. Low enrollment in on campus courses and the novelty of delivering online instruction by instructors and librarians may have been contributing factors.

**The drop in the number of instruction sections is attributed to the implementation of Credo Instruct Information Literacy modules and the transition to online delivery of courses during the spring 2020 semester.

Fiscal Year 2019

- Librarians conducted a total of 38 instruction sessions with 435 students in attendance.
- There were 191 one-on-one reference sessions.
- There were 2488 views of online guides.

Fiscal Year 2018

- Librarians conducted a total of 31 instruction sessions with 389 students in attendance.
- There were 125 one-on-one reference sessions.
- There were 138 views of online guides.

Fiscal Year 2017

- Librarians conducted a total of 39 instruction sessions with 539 students in attendance.
- There were 83 one-on-one reference sessions.
- There were 194 views of online guides.

Fiscal Year 2016

- Librarians conducted a total of 19 instruction sessions with 334 students in attendance.
- There were 244 one-on-one reference sessions.
- There were 279 views of online guides.

Fiscal Year 2015

- Librarians conducted a total of 28 instruction sessions with 390 students in attendance.
- There were 233 one-on-one reference sessions.
- There were 336 views of online guides.