

Enhancing the Quality of Research through Information Research Skills Development

Background:

- Information Literacy Program (ILP)
- Information Research Skills (IRS)

RSD Journey:

The Information Research Skills (IRS) journey within USP Library has and continues to develop from the first semester of 2002, where the Library launched and established the foundation of programs of Information Literacy Programme (ILP) with the aim to develop information skills for lifelong learning.

Name Change:

In reviewing **Information Literacy Program(ILP)** so that it fits in with the University's strategic directions , the Library used the Research Skills Development (RSD) to inform provisions for building student **Information Research Skills.**

Information Literacy Defined:

- Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."

(ACRL, 2000)

Information Literacy Program (ILP) USP THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

- Aim: To empower users with the set of skills
 - Recognise
 - Locate
 - Evaluate
 - Organise
 - Use (Ethical & Legal)

Information Literacy Program Offerings :



- Course Level Collaboration
 - Liaison Librarian
 - Reader Services Librarian
- Awareness Session
- Walk In Session
 - Modules (1-8)
- Library Tours
 - Orientation Activity
 - Creating awareness on the Services & Resources
- Workshops
- Information Session (Lecture Setting)
 - Brief session on Online Databases, Catalogue, Referencing and Citation

Package of Support: Modules

- Resources Available @ USP Library
- Accessing the USP Library Homepage and Using the Online Catalogue
- Untangle the Web –Introducing the internet and the WWW
- Critically Evaluating Information Sources
- Literature Search, Citing Sources and the Bibliography
- Searching ProQuest
- ISI Web of Knowledge
- Using Chemical Abstracts

Information Research Skills (IRS) :

In line with the Research Skill Development Framework, which outlines coherent, explicit and incremental development of research skills we have developed our IRS programs.

Levels of IRS:

- Undergraduates
- Postgraduates
- Staff (Academic/Non-Academic Staff)

IRS Offerings: Undergraduates

- UU100
 - The Library collaborates with the UU100 generic course with the aim to build the students information research skills
- Library Tours
- Course Level collaboration
 - Information Session (lecture setting, hands on class)
- One to One session
- Walk In Sessions
- Reach out Programs
 - Student Learning Support Units (Faculties/Pacific TAFE)
 - First Year Experience Coordinators
 - WHEW Workshops
 - Disability Centre

UU 100 Topics:

- Topic 1: Fundamentals of Information
- Topic 2: Search Strategies and Searching Information Online
- Topic 3: The Library Website and The Library Catalogue
- Topic 4: Search Databases: ProQuest & Referencing Using Reference Management Software (EndNote Online)
- Topic 5: Critically Evaluating Information Resources (START)

IRS Undergraduate Modules:

- Planning your Search
- Search Tips
- Improve Your Search Results
- Evaluating Information
- Using eBooks
- Using the Library Online Databases
- Managing References Software
- The use of Citation Styles

Aligning IRS Program to RSD:

Research Facet	Focus of Research Support
Find & Generate	Introductory background of the Assignment, identify the key terms/search terms. Connect with Boolean Operators. Identify the search tools (Database, Search Engine Google Scholar), Online Catalogue).
Evaluate & Reflect (do I trust this source ?)	Evaluate for relevance in their assignments or credible enough to support arguments.
Analyze and Synthesise (creative)	Refine their search, alternative terms, subject terms or preferred terms.
Organise and Manage	Organized published works with tools like Endnote, Mendeley (Create subfolders say for articles for their introduction etc..., store the full text of the article and mark or highlight).
Communicate & Apply	Writing, Discussion, CWYW using EndNote (referencing and citation).

Postgraduate Offerings:

- Workshops (1 day – Saturday)
 - Core Research Courses (AL400, SC400, DG400)
 - By Faculty, other than Core Research Courses
- One to One Consultation
 - Online/face to face (citations, resources)
- Course Level Collaboration
 - PACE-SD & MS 411 , AG 472 and AG 474
- Faculty Collaborations
 - Postgraduate Events, Orientation and Information Sessions

Postgraduate Module: AL 400

- **Navigating the *USP Library Homepage/Databases***
 - Overview of USP Library databases (multi disciplinary/subject specific)
 - Exploring the Library Homepage – to its wide range of collections, services and facilities.
- **Searching the *USP Library Catalogue***
 - conduct power search using the Library Catalogue for target results
- **Using the Library Online Databases: *ebrary* and *ProQuest***
 - Proquest as multidisciplinary database for the application of finding evaluating of information with results of ebooks in a wide range of subject areas, sessions will cover the use of tools to help you find, use and manage the information you need.
- **Using the Library Online Databases: *Web of Science***
 - research discovery database , functions of the database from search options, results to citation reports and other features.
- **Using the Library Online Databases: *JSTOR***
 - a digital library of back issues of multidisciplinary academic journals and recently includes electronic books and current issues of journals.
- **Using *Endnotes* to Manage your References**
 - Advance EndNote – reference management software. Participants will learn how to add references manually, import references from numerous databases and use EndNote with Microsoft Word to create and format citations and references with additional functions.

Fostering Research Culture:

- Staff Training
 - IRS In-house Training for Library Staff
 - IRS for Academics
 - IRS for Non Academics (Projects, SLS and CFL)
- Library Tours
- Information Desk
- Ask a Librarian
- Revamping of the Library Webpage
- Subject Guides (Links to Instructional Videos)

Research Support (Priority):

- Subscriptions to Major Publishers
 - eBooks & Journal Databases
- High Priority de-selection of print resources
(Current Curricula/Research Themes)
- Promoting the university's research publications (USPERR)
- ORCID for managing researcher Identity
- Liaison Librarian Outreach (Academics/SLS/Instructional Designers)
- Coordinate training for research analytics and discovery
- Librarian for Electronic Resources and change of current reader services Librarian to Reader Services (Research).
- Move to Discipline-based faculty teams of librarians to work with the Associate Dean Research

IRS: Ongoing & Future

- Reinforcement at 200 & 300 Levels
 - Identifying Research Courses
 - Course Level Collaboration
 - Librarians coordinate with the faculty to meet particular course research requirements and prepare web based course research guides.
 - Beginning Semester II 2017

Plan for 200 & 300 Levels USP

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- Provide more in-depth exploration of research skills
- Exposure to specialized topical research tools and databases
- Develop more sophisticated search strategies
- More on Referencing Management Software
- Referencing and Citation

Research Support: Ongoing & Future

- Faculty Collaboration and Consultation
 - Support Research Students/Staff
- More on Collaboration and Consultation with Research Office
 - USP researchers to grow and publish
 - Journal Ranking Systems (How can we help ?)
 - Managing of USPERR
 - Involved/Informed in any training/workshop and vice versa

Questions