

SEVEN PILLARS OF INFORMATION LITERACY



Component: Academic Reading
ILO: To identify how to find, critique and use academic information

TOOL

This model offers a useful framework for reviewing your current level of information literacy & identifying room for improvement.

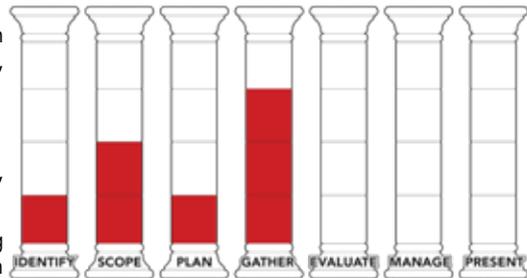
ACTIVITY

The seven pillars can be used in many ways. It is useful as an overview of information literacy - encompassing finding literature, critical academic reading and Harvard Referencing.

HOW

You can use this to describe and teach about information literacy, dividing it neatly into sections.

It can be used to measure where students feel they are with getting to grips with the subject and it can be used to review progress in developing these skills.



NB Some of the concepts in here may seem quite tricky to students and need unpacking and explaining. You may wish to use this framework to come up with a specific checklist for your module.

EXAMPLES

Show the video (below) with the accompanying handout and ask students to discuss and see if they can find examples of the different skills described. Discussion and learning can then take place on the skills you need them to master. This could be a lead-in activity to finding some resources online in Google Scholar or EBSCO or your institute's physical library or it could follow on to Harvard Referencing activities. (See Academic Writing under Study Skills element).

As assessment time draws closer when students need to be seeking and using resources ask them to review the skills they feel they have and look for gaps. Use this as a discussion tool on where they need help so that students have an input into what lessons contain next.

Set up the Seven Pillars as a framework and then gradually refer back to them as the class looks at more of the skills. You could use the handout as a visual measure of what has been covered (maybe colouring sections in on slides as you progress).

LARGE GROUP TEACHING

With large groups, you can either run this as a solo activity and then put students into groups to discuss/adjust their decisions or you could have small-group discussions which contribute to a whole-group activity of generating one list.

SUCCESS

Students will be aware of how to find literature and will be familiar with the resources available. More work in next steps may be needed for critical reading and Harvard Referencing etc.

NEXT STEPS

Work specifically on critical reading and Harvard Referencing as well as plagiarism. CRAAP is a useful model for working on the GATHER pillar.

RESOURCES

www.musostudy.com/resources/3SS/seven-pillars-handout.pdf	Handout - A brief explanation of the 7 areas with space for note-taking
www.musostudy.com/resources/3SS/seven-pillars-worksheet	Worksheet - A visual representation of the 7 pillars with space to note what students feel able to do and what they need to develop further
www.musostudy.com/resources/3SS/seven-pillars-eg.png	Graphic for use in slides etc.
The SCONUL Seven Pillars of Information Literacy video	Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLMMt9rkGnk
The SCONUL Seven Pillars of Information Literacy. Core Model for Higher Education	Available at https://www.sconul.ac.uk/sites/default/files/documents/coremodel.pdf