

Information Literacy 2003

ACT Senior Exit Survey Results on Accessing Information 1998-2003 comparison

Learning outcome

Through their course work student will learn how to locate and screen information.

Method

The ACT Senior Exit Survey was administered to samples of Freshman Entry and Transfer Entry students in 1998 and in 2003 who were registered in Senior Seminar classes at the main campus and at off campus sites. The ACT Senior Exit Survey has one item on this subject. An additional item was put in as a supplemental question in the 1998 survey.

Results

Table 1 summarizes the results of the 1998 survey. In responses to these questions in 1998 about 78% of the freshman entry and 72% of the transfer entry students said that they increased their knowledge much or very much of how to access information in chosen career/field as a result of ULV classes. Also, 62% of the freshman entry and 66% of the transfer entry seniors said that they made very much or much progress toward locating, screening and organizing information. These were somewhat higher than the national privates, where 56% said so. The items and the student responses are attached.

Table 2 summarizes the results of the 2003 survey. In 2003 about two-thirds of freshman entry and transfer entry students reported making much progress in locating screening and organizing information. This is quite comparable to the responses of the 1998 sample of seniors. However, in the 2003 sample four out of five students considered this skill to be important. The importance question was not analyzed in 1998.

Action recommendations

- Faculty should be encouraged to assign work that involves locating and screening information.

Table 1

Percentage of ULV Seniors (97-98) indicating contribution of ULV to **accessing information** in a discipline (major), compared to the ACT norms of national private universities.

ACT Items	ULV Trad Undergrad N=134	Fresh Entry n=73	Trans Entry n=57	CAPA n=85	SCE n=106	National Privates
1. Did you increase knowledge of how to access information in chosen career/field as a result of ULV classes (Very Much/Much) (ULV6)	75	78	72	70	54	-
2. Progress made toward locating, screening and organizing information (Very Much/Much) (II-A4)	63	62	66	72	70	56

Table 2

Percentage of responses of ULV Seniors (02-03) on items related to **Access Information** at ULV by **entry status**, compared to the ACT norms of national private universities

ACT Items	ULV Freshman Entry n=53	ULV Transfer Entry n=197	National Privates
4. Locating, screening, and organizing information			
(Importance: Very Great/Great) (II-A4)	85	82	74
(Progress: Very Much/Much) (II-A4)	67	72	59