

## Rubric for Assessing Research Papers

### ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standard #1

*Variety of sources (1.2 c & d)	All from one source type	Mix of 2 source types	Mix of more than 2 source types	
Sources satisfy research/information need	Severely unbalanced (most important literature is missing)	Adequate (viewpoints limited but adequate)	Balanced (good representation of viewpoints)	comprehensive

### ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standard #3

Timeliness of sources (3.2 a)	Inappropriate dates for topic	Mix of appropriate and inappropriate	Appropriate dates for all materials	
Authority/ Reliability of sources (3.2a)	All inappropriate authorities	Mix of authoritative and non-author	All reliable authorities	

### ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standard #4

Use of reference(s) to evaluate or illustrate specific points (4.1 c; 4.3; 3.1)	Doesn't use references OR quotes or references don't seem to be serving any purpose-are just "stuck in"	Quotes or references serve a purpose but are generally not well used	Uses references or quotes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- for background information</li> <li>- to support student's thesis</li> <li>- as support for a specific point</li> </ul>	
Integrates quotes effectively (style: block quotes, signal phrases, etc.) (4.3; 3.1)	Not integrated well	Some quotes effectively integrated (some not)	Most quotes effectively integrated	Sophisticated use of quotes
Citing/ documenting materials in text (4.1 c)	Many errors (did not cite accurately or neglected to cite source)	Most are correct but minor errors are numerous	All entries conform to required style with few punctuation errors	

### ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standard #5

Bibliography/ works cited: <i>one style</i> (5.3 a)	Many errors	Most entries conform to style; minor errors are numerous	All entries conform to required style with few punctuation errors	
Bibliog/works cited: <i>complete</i> info. (5.3 a)	Incomplete	Most are complete; some missing info	Information is complete	
Are all sources cited in text listed on Works Cited pg or bibliography? (5.3a)	Source list is incomplete	Source list is complete		
Are all sources listed on Works Cited page cited in paper?	None	Some	Most	All
Evidence of plagiarism (uncredited sources) 5.3 a	Throughout paper	Some	None	

### Overall Rating – Student Use of Outside Sources

Does this student know how to use outside sources as evidenced in this paper?	Poor use of sources	Some ability shown	Good use	Sophisticated use
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\*All standards & references to performance indicators (numbers in left column of rubric) are tied to ACRL's Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education (2000).

Variety of sources = books, journal articles, popular magazines, websites, etc.

Merz, Lawrie H. and Beth L. Mark, comp. *Assessment in College Library Instruction Programs* (CLIP Note #32). Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, College Libraries Section, 2002.