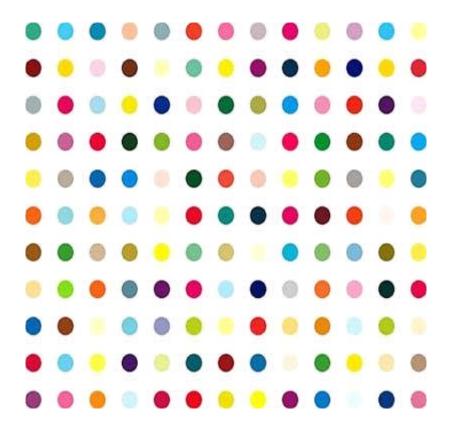
Joining up the dots



Transformative approaches to Information Literacy at UCA

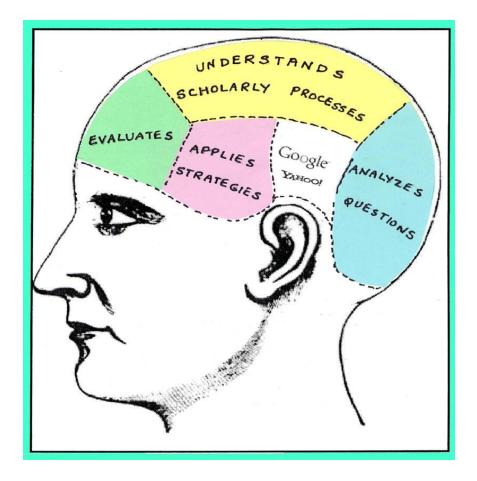
Overview

- Information Literacy defined
- How does IL enhance the skills of your students?
- How has the Library traditionally delivered these skills?
- New interpretations of IL
- Raising our game: skills integration and transformative experiences

What do we mean by Information Literacy?

- 1. Task definition
- 2. Information seeking strategies
- 3. Location and access
- 4. Use of information
- 5. Synthesis
- 6. Evaluation





'IL is *not* a set of generic skills, but a set of abilities to be used in purposeful ways that relate to task, situation and context' (Limberg, 2007)

How does IL enhance the skills of FE students?

'Articulate ideas and information comprehensively in visual and written forms'

Source, navigate, select, retrieve, evaluate, manipulate and manage information'

(HEA Employability profile for art and design)

What are the 'drivers' for this?

- Iearners develop the literacy, numeracy, language and key skills required to complete their programmes and progress.
- Iearners develop relevant knowledge, understanding and skills which contribute to their economic and social well-being
- □ learners increase their employability
- interesting and appropriate teaching and learning methods and resources inspire and challenge all learners and enable them to extend their knowledge, skills and understanding

B4 How effective are the care, guidance and support learners receive in helping them to attain their learning goals?

- learners receive appropriate and timely information, advice and guidance on their next step in training, education and employment
- learners receive individual care and support to promote their learning and development, and to help them achieve their potential

"... there are still some weak areas that need further attention ie. research (amounts of), particularly books being used and not just web sites; Referencing (Harvard Methods). We also need to make a clear decision on where we stand with Wikipedia which has now become a prime resource of research (inevitable?!). But which is being referenced in many bibliographies."

FE Tutor, Rochester

How do we deliver IL at UCA?

The 'dots':

...Library inductionEssay workshops..... Online resource workshops.....Dissertation research... One to one research... **Advanced Research Methods**

'Telling' or facilitating?



'students saw little value in information literacy instruction that was **repetitive**, not building on existing knowledge and skills, not contextualised by specific curricululm content and required learning tasks, and not clearly and explicitely linked to their goal of completing their research efficiently and successfully' (Todd, 2005)

How would we like to deliver IL?

Students to be able to:

- Formulate *authentic* questions, *construct* and *present* their own positions: *make sense* of the information they obtain: *transform it* to reflect their own emerging views
- Experience and explore variation in finding and using information; develop a set of lenses through which to view a task
- Choose the appropriate approach for the context they are in...

Our definitions of IL

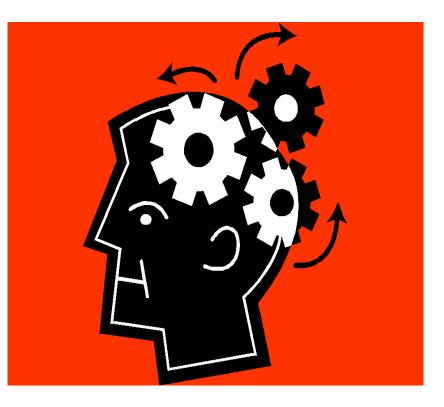
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existing learning integrated flexible building g integrat knowledge Context-specific Student-centred active in the second se engagement

- F 隆

' Information Literacy does not operate in a vacuum. Students need IL as an enabler of their discipline based learning and research...' (Markless, 2007)



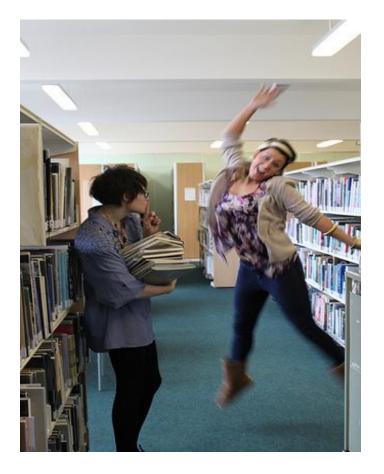
Good practice so far

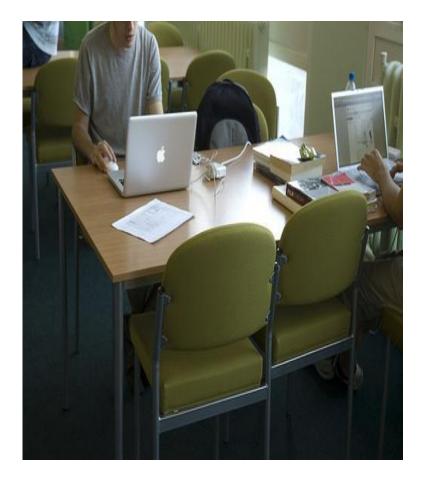
'Mapping the Territory': a collaborative T&L project investigating links between information literacy and employability.

Cog-ignition



Experiential approaches





Skills integration

'we will aim to shift delivery from a transportive approach to information presentation to a more **transformative** approach to user education (i.e. a shift from 'telling' to 'facilitating')

(Widdicombe, 2009)

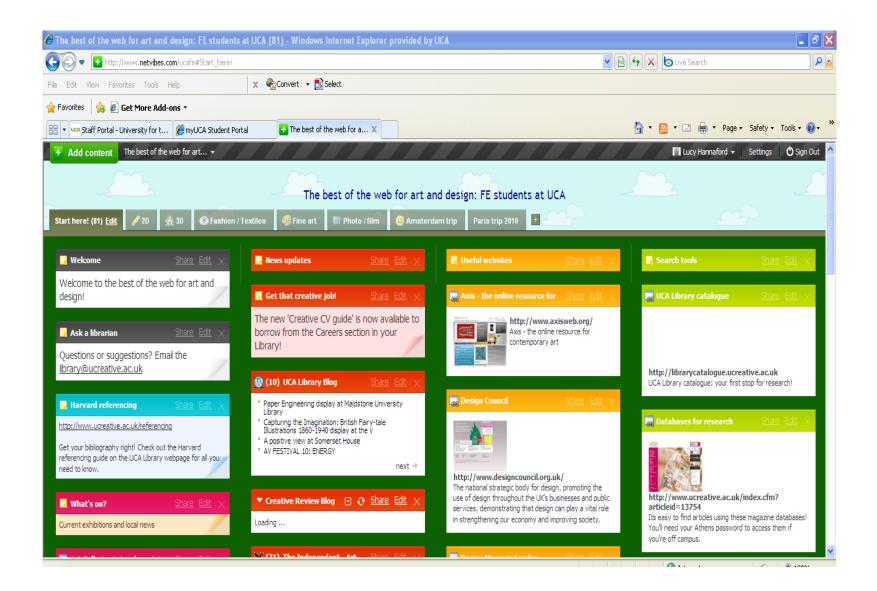
UCA Staff and student feedback

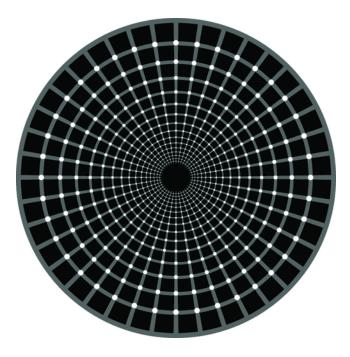
'I came in today thinking I wouldn't learn anything new and was completely wrong! The best thing was how to get myself up and ready to start and to structure my dissertation research'

(2nd year Architecture student)

UCA Staff and student feedback

'I valued the opportunity to have a librarian make the connection between the library resources and the specific brief and believe that this should be embedded in the teaching of stage 1 students' (Senior Lecturer, Fashion, Epsom)





Joined up dots

'Active engagement with and transformation of information to achieve changes in individual knowledge structure' (Markless, 2007)

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