



# December Letter from Andersen Library

December 1, 2016

<http://library.uww.edu>

University of Wisconsin - Whitewater

## Information Literacy Framework

A recent [Stanford study](#) has confirmed something that faculty and librarians already knew: students struggle when it comes to judging the credibility and accuracy of the information they consume.

Andersen Library's adoption of the 2015 Association of Colleges & Research Libraries' [Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](#) will help our campus to continue addressing this issue. The framework (which replaces the earlier information literacy standards) shifts the emphasis of instruction and learning from skills-based objectives to essential concepts, dispositions and practices. These six "frames" guide us to develop a deep understanding of how information is created, shared, and valued within specific contexts:

- Authority Is Constructed and Contextual
- Information Creation as a Process
- Information Has Value
- Research as Inquiry
- Scholarship as Conversation
- Searching as Strategic Exploration

In order to make sense of these frames for our students and for our instruction, the Andersen Library Reference and Instruction Librarians have formulated model questions for each frame. These questions illustrate how understanding information within this framework guides the research process and our evaluation of information we find. For example, the first frame, "Authority Is Constructed and Contextual" leads us to question:

- How is the credibility of the source determined?
- Which factors influence a source's authority?
- Which points of view are expressed and which views might be missing?

Rather than simply learning to efficiently navigate a specific database or how to properly format a citation, the Framework for Information Literacy prompts us to ask questions as we seek and work with information. The questions we ask are those which both lead us to become and demonstrate us to be information literate. The Framework describes what it is to be critical consumers of information in our disciplines and in our daily lives.

Stay tuned for more information on the framework in our spring newsletters.



## Absorb the Atmosphere@Andersen

So why does Andersen Library host *Relaxathon* events? Michigan State recently conducted a [campus climate study](#) and learned that students identified their library as a supportive space where they felt a sense of belonging. At Andersen Library, we also strive to create a friendly and inclusive atmosphere for our students. Offering relaxing activities at the busiest time of the semester is one way our Library can meet the needs of our users in a welcoming academic space.

Crafts and pets have been clinically proven to reduce stress. So this year's *Relaxathon* activities include making snowflakes, holiday cards, golden snitches, tea blends and buttons; five-minute massages; hand knitting; graffiti wall; coloring pages; and, the ever-popular pet therapy dogs.

Join us for crafts, meet up with furry, four-legged friends, or grab a few coloring pages to take home. See the Andersen Library Blog for the schedule of events.



<http://blogs.uww.edu/library/archives/18940>

## New Dissertations Database

The Library now has access to the American Doctoral Dissertations™ database, which offers more than 153,000 theses and dissertations, including 70,000 new citations for theses and dissertations from 1902 to the present.

The new citations include links to full text versions, when available, via the Institutional Repository where the thesis or dissertation is housed.

American Doctoral Dissertations is available on the Library's [EBSCOhost® platform](#).



## ❖ Holiday Book Sale ❖

The holidays are just around the corner, so it's time to visit Andersen Library's Continuous Book Sale to stock up. This month's sale features gift-worthy books, CDs and DVDs for \$2 each in a wide range of subjects including art, history, religion, and travel.



Questions? Contact Carol Elsen, Collection Manager, x5751 [elsenc@uww.edu](mailto:elsenc@uww.edu)