

Information Literacy Syllabus for FSN 310

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Research Help Desk: Kennedy Library, 2nd Floor (216 area) • 805-756-2649

Online Help Desk: lib.calpoly.edu/help

As the College Librarian for CAFES, I teach students how to be effective researchers, consumers, and producers of information. In FSN 310, you will learn information literacy skills that will be foundational for your future studies (e.g., FSN 416, FSN 420, Senior Project), as well as your future professional work and your personal life. In addition, your participation will help you to achieve the course and program learning objectives that have been established for you by your instructor and department, respectively.

The knowledge and skills you will learn in this class build upon what you have already learned in FSN 101, including the different types of articles, peer review, and article citations. You may want to review these topics in the FSN 101 Research Guide - <http://guides.lib.calpoly.edu/fsn101>.

Information Literacy Learning Objectives

Through the assignments and activities in this class you will learn to:

- Formulate a narrow topic appropriate to maternal and child nutrition.
- Distinguish the characteristics of a review article and a research article and explain the differences between them in order to identify each type.
- Search the scholarly literature on a narrow topic in order to find and retrieve relevant articles.
- Use a review article to refine your topic and to identify additional sources relevant to the topic.
- Locate a known article using Google Scholar.
- Use critical thinking skills in identifying and reading the scientific literature in order to determine relevance and usefulness for your topic.
- Develop effective scholarly writing skills in order to communicate information in a scientific manner.

Online Research Guide

An online research guide has been created to point you to the library (and other) resources that will be essential to your success in this course. The research guide can be accessed at <http://guides.lib.calpoly.edu/fsn310>.

Activities to Complete Before Starting the Assignment (use the FSN 310 Research Guide to complete these)

- Compare and contrast the characteristics of research and review articles using the documents and examples provided.
- View 4 PubMed video tutorials.
 - Simple Subject Search
 - Simple Subject Search – How It Works
 - The Filters Sidebar
 - Finding the Full Text of an Article Using PubMed
- View the How to Find an Article When You Have a Citation document.
- View the Finding the Full Text of an Article Using Google Scholar video.
- Read the "How to Read a Scientific Article" document.
- Use PubMed to find a review article on your topic.