Library Research Orientation: Nursing 200

WHAT IS INFORMATION COMPETENCY?
Information Competency[1] has been defined as: "A set of abilities requiring individuals …
to recognize when information is needed and to have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use
effectively the needed information." [2]

THE AWARENESS AND ABILITY …
1. To discern and determine exactly the information needed.
2. To seek, find, and retrieve this information efficiently and effectively.
3. To use this information appropriately – including evaluating the accuracy and
    reliability of the information and citing it properly.

Finding Books

The GCC Library maintains a small health sciences book collection that supports the
nursing curriculum. Most nursing textbooks are available on "Reserve" and can be checked
out for use within the library. Our reference collection has encyclopedias, dictionaries,
handbooks, etc. that are for use within the library only. Our circulating collection includes
print as well as electronic books. Students may request books (and journal articles) that
GCC does not own through **interlibrary loan**.

Use the Library's online catalog to find books
1. Start from the Library's Homepage: http://www.glendale.edu/library/index.html
2. Click the **Catalog** tab or the **Find books & more** link.
3. Choose search mode: **Advanced Search**, **Basic Search**, **E-books**, etc.
4. Type your search terms into text boxes; Click **Search**.

Finding Periodical Articles

GCC Library's print periodical collection is very small. Some of the health sciences
periodicals that we subscribe to in print include: *American Journal of Nursing (AJN),
JAMA, American Journal of Public Health, New England Journal of Medicine*. Most of our
periodical subscriptions are electronic and can be accessed through our many subscription
databases. This makes sense financially because we can subscribe to lots of periodicals
electronically that we could not afford in print. It's makes sense for you because you can
access these electronic databases from anywhere you have an Internet connection!

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[1] Also referred to as "information literacy"
[2] Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education. (Chicago: American Library
Association, 2000).

1. Start from the Library's Homepage: http://www.glendale.edu/library/
2. Click the **Article Databases** tab or the **Find Articles in Databases** link
3. Choose the database you want to search by clicking on its title. When you are using an off-campus computer you will be prompted to enter a username (your GCC ID number) and a password (your birth date in 6 digits—no punctuation).

Health Sciences databases available through the GCC Library web site:
Health Source Nursing Edition **(EBSCO)**
Health Source Consumer Edition **(EBSCO)**
LexiPALS Drug Guide **(EBSCO)**
CINAHL Plus **(EBSCO)**
Health and Medical Complete **(ProQuest)**
Nursing & Allied Health **(ProQuest)**
Science Resource Center (Gale)
Access Science (McGraw-Hill)

Finding Information on the Web
Here are just a few useful Web sites:

Evidence-Based Nursing – excellent and detailed tutorial and review of EBN
http://ebp.lib.uic.edu/nursing/

ANA Nursing World – official Web site of the American Nurses Association
http://nursingworld.org/

AHRQ –Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality – sponsored by the US Dept. of Health & Human Services. See the link to "Clinical Information" in the Main Menu.
http://www.ahrq.gov

RN Central – Includes a section called "Careplan Corner"
http://www.rncentral.com/

CDC A-Z Index – Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control
http://www.cdc.gov/az/

Be sure to critically evaluate <u>all</u> information you find on the Internet.