Transformational or Troublesome?
Business Information Literacy Perspectives on the ACRL Framework

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What's your Framework vibe?
The Framework in the Disciplines
It's Complicated
The Framework in the disciplines

Disciplinary Examples
A Deep Dive into Business Information Literacy
Our Study

Scoping Review
Summer / Fall 2019

Online Survey
Spring 2019

Focus Groups
Summer 2020
Which frames are the most and least relevant for BIL?

How do librarians use the Framework and/or other tools in designing information literacy instruction for business students?

What are the limitations of the Framework for BIL?

How do institutions use the Framework at a higher level, beyond classroom implementation?

What would help business librarians make better use of the Framework?
“We’re a little weird, odd, different, special.”
Most Relevant and Most Used Frames
"The idea that search is iterative is definitely important, especially with students doing industry or company research. Sometimes students contact us and say, "I need to find this piece of information, which database should I use?" Oftentimes it's explaining - try this database and if they don't have it there try Mergent then Hoovers then S&P and so on. The reason we have all these different databases is because each one contains different pieces of information."

- Shannon
"My students get tunnel vision, I bet we all get the question about which database should I use for this topic and the answer is you use them all. But very much that we're dealing with an iterative process ... strategic exploration seems to be one that helps students figure out how they should approach the research process."

- Holly
"Getting [students] to understand that businesses are not going to tell you every single thing you would like to know because of the proprietary aspect and they don't want their competitors to know this information. So trying to [get] them to understand that information really affects businesses and their margins and their profits, and getting them to think about why or why not they would want to share information that's probably internal."

- Alexa
"I actually deliberately structured whole lesson plans around Information has Value. I find that that one seems to appeal the most to business students and it's interesting because in the Framework they actually refer to information as a commodity."

- Benjamin
Use of the Framework
Have you incorporated the *Framework* into your business information literacy instruction?

Yes (N=94)

55%
"Perhaps not overtly, but certainly in the background. I think that librarians often have little secret agendas behind our lesson plans and what we have chosen to say verbally and why we have chosen to say those things verbally. And so my secret agenda is usually based upon the Framework and other critical engagement sort of theories. It is my own sort of secret project.

- Shannon
"I have a lesson around Information has Value, and I use that in an introductory course where there's no research assignment, where I'm pretty much free to choose and develop my own lesson."

"I consciously use Research as Inquiry. I apply that frame a lot to my research consultations. Before I do my research consultations, I have students choose goals for the appointment based off of knowledge practices which I've reframed from the language in the framework."
"I'm putting the frames at the top of all my lesson plans, and that way when people examine my lesson plans for tenure and promotion, it's all a narrative. It all looks good."

- Anthony
Question Break
Do you directly apply the Framework in your disciplinary instruction design?

How do you do it and in which classes?
Barriers to Using the Framework
"I think for the context where a lot of us are teaching one shots, it's really, really hard to do the Framework, any real proper justice, in this sense, and you're probably always developing learning outcomes that are like very surface level.”

- Monica
"I don't find it to be a particularly helpful way to think about information literacy nor is it a good communication tool to use with faculty when lesson planning along with faculty. I think this is a librarian language that's very alienating and ostracizing to teaching faculty and if you don't use their language when you're planning lessons with them, you won't get invited back."

- Joy
"These are frames of mind. They're hard to assess, and that is because these kinds of mindsets and ways of thinking and ways of interacting with information are innately hard to assess."

- Shannon

"It's a really hard thing to kind of figure out how to assess all of that. That is something that I think is a huge sticking point for us as librarians. We made this monster baby framework thing. How on earth are we supposed to assess it?"

- Elle
“There's some information literacy components that are in that curriculum that we're trying to tie to our libraries information literacy outcomes, and so I think going forward, that it’s going to be a little more front of my mind as I start planning for instruction in the fall and in the spring with my business classes is not only thinking about the goals, the immediate goals, but then you know keeping the Framework in mind here and now, it's going to be a an additional layer of connecting that to the new curriculum.”

- Cindy
Making better use of the Framework
"I think our best opportunity is to band together and advocate through AACSB to create some kind of document that is specialized to business that is an outcome that can be assessed and I don't think we're going to really find anything that helps us until we can do that."

- Larkin
Tools for Information Literacy Instruction Design
Tools & Resources

- ACRL Cookbook Series
- Bloom's Taxonomy
- BRASS’s Business Research Competencies
- Critical Information Literacy
- Course documents
- Listservs
- Peers and colleagues
- Vendor training sessions
The Framework is a **guiding** document, and was intended to be adapted.

Librarians very much want to learn from others in **similar contexts**.
June 2021
“We’re a little different:” Business information literacy perspectives on the ACRL Framework. Communications in Information Literacy.
- BIL Tools and Resources: https://repository.belmont.edu/libraryscholarship/10/

Fall 2021
BRASS webinar

TBD
Multidisciplinary study of the use of the Framework in a variety of disciplines
Thank You

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