



Diversify the Forest:

Applying the ACRL Framework Companion Documents to Information Literacy Program Assessment and Development

Carl DiNardo - STEM Research & Instruction Librarian
Susan Ariew - Education Research & Instruction Librarian

framework companion document poll



Poll Everywhere

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your thoughts, in this moment



What is the purpose of the ACRL *Framework* Companions?



Why are discipline-specific *Framework* Companions potentially useful?



What are some barriers you've perceived or encountered to using *Framework* Companions?



In what ways might the *Framework* Companions improve the ACRL *Framework*?



objectives

- 🌿 Identify disciplinary language and approaches in the Companion Documents
- 🌿 Evaluate your IL teaching and programs using the Companion Documents
- 🌿 Identify Framework gaps that are addressed in the Companion Documents



the framework: perspectives



general

Encompassing, not
exhaustive.
Feature, not a bug.



jargon

Uses library science and
education terminology.
Omits language from
other disciplines.



theoretical

Provides core ideas to be
built upon.
Does not take on “how to.”



the framework companions: perspectives



unique

Add disciplinary context.
Add specificity.



jargon

All incorporate disciplinary vocabulary.
Some eschew Framework terminology for specific reasons.



approaches

Some mirror the Framework.
Some find value in and need for alternate approaches.



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relationship to the framework

*“The Framework has been conceived as a **set of living documents** on which the profession will build.”*

-ACRL Framework, Appendix 1

The Companion Documents are a key part of that set, and help keep the *Framework* “living.”





the framework: perspectives



a living document?

Never updated.

Subject to ACRL guidelines and procedures.

Usually a 5 year review cycle.

We are between 8 and 10 years without review.



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however

“given the dramatic shift in approaches to information literacy that the Framework presented, the ACRL Board decided to extend this review cycle in order to allow the profession to have more time to use and operationalize the document. Additionally, the pandemic has caused a delay.”

-ACRL Framework Review Working Group page

however

The review cycle is about to begin.

“given the dramatic shift in approaches to information literacy that the Framework presented, the ACRL Board decided to extend this review cycle in order to allow the profession to have more time to use and operationalize the document. Additionally, the pandemic has caused a delay.”

-ACRL Framework Review Working Group page



companion documents → more living framework

01

timing

Companions developed subsequent to the *Framework*.

02

framework discourse

Companion work benefited from more developed discourse.

03

framework experience

Companion work benefited from time working with the *Framework*.



more to work with

The *Framework* companions help advance IL thinking and can be applied in:



Preparing & delivering instruction



Developing programs that better align with values and priorities of both the institution and academic departments



Discussions with faculty



Assessment efforts

these ideas are important to

01

disciplinary IL
work

02

general IL work

03

ACRL review/revision
efforts



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companion themes

01

DEISJ

Improved & specific
language

02

authority

Efforts to improve, clarify,
and contextualize concepts

03

open access


More emphasis and
clarity on importance

04

technology

Advancements and
applications have altered the
information ecosystem





we believe this
commonality indicates
gaps and areas the
Framework can be
improved.



practical applications

01

faculty communication

STEM - USF Biology faculty

- Authority issues in science, such as privileged voices & western-centric biases
- Community Science
- Specifically stresses discipline-specific language (STEM is broad)



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practical applications

01

faculty communication

WGS - a reflection of feminist literature and values

- Actions & Attitudes

Social Work - a practitioner lens

- “Most vulnerable and oppressed”
- “Lived experience” = authority



practical applications

02

resource development

USF - OA/OER

- Finding aids for open resources/research
- Workshop development for OER use & creation for K-12



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practical applications

02

resource development

Education & Social Work

- professional/practitioner programs
 - “Vulnerable and oppressed” populations

Understanding these issues helps empower practitioners to find answers to problems



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practical applications

03

assessment

USF Canvas mapping project

- Asynchronous Online Badging Workshops
- Revision cycle
- Better understanding of what we have



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practical applications

03

assessment

USF Canvas mapping project

- How?
 - Look at Framework KP connections with workshops
 - Frames most represented
 - What was there?
 - What *could be* there?



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practical applications

03

assessment

USF Canvas mapping project

- But wait...
- What concepts are better represented through Companion Documents?
 - Added two to our work:
 - WGS
 - STEM



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practical applications

03

assessment

USF Canvas mapping project - Lit Review Workshop

- WGS
 - “Considers the lack of women’s voices in scholarly and other sources, such as primary sources, literary works, datasets, and the role of intersectionality in these gaps.”

practical applications

03

assessment

USF Canvas mapping project - Lit Review Workshop

- STEM
 - “Seek multiple perspectives during information gathering and assessment, including those from non-dominant or non-Western traditions, including ethical, global, economic, environmental, and social perspectives”

practical applications

assessment

	AUTHORITY	INFO CREATION	VALUE	RESEARCH AS INQUIRY	SCHOLARSHIP AS CONVERSATION	SEARCHING AS STRATEGIC
APA CITATION			✓		✓	
AVOIDING PLAGIARISM			✓		✓	
CHANGES IN SCHOLARLY PERSP.	✓			✓	✓	
CHICAGO CITATION			✓		✓	
CONDUCTING LIT REVIEWS				✓	✓	
© FOR CONTENT CREATORS	✓	✓	✓			
MANAGEABLE TOPICS				✓		✓
POSTER PRESENTATIONS		✓		✓	✓	
VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS		✓		✓	✓	
DATA LITERACY 1	✓					✓
DATA LITERACY 2		✓		✓	✓	





and so, *framework* companions



Give space to the *Framework* to be encompassing and more resilient



Provide subject librarians context, specificity, and a better-aligned vocabulary



Have common themes indicating where the *Framework* can be improved in review/revision



Apply to general IL work, which helps keep the *Framework* living



Are seemingly underutilized resources





some challenges



Not all disciplines are represented with Companion Documents



This is early and observational work



To fully incorporate concepts from all companions is a lot of work



Many ACRL Sections have approached this work differently



so we recommend

01

pick one to start

Become familiar with the companion closest to your work

02

enlist colleagues

Encourage colleagues to do the same for their areas

03

meet & discuss

Find areas of commonality or where a specific concept applies to general work

04

be involved

Be part of the development/revision process



Key Sources

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Thank you! Questions?

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