



## Students and Library Research

### Profile of college students

used a computer by age 16-18	100%
rely on the information seeking habits formed before college teens who use Internet for school research	94%
teens who use Internet as a major source for school projects	71%
own their own computer	85%
use Internet <i>more than</i> 4 hours per week	74%
use the Internet <i>more than</i> the library for information searching	73%
use the library <i>less than</i> 3 hours per week	80%
study <i>less than</i> 7 hours per week	62%

### UC Berkeley graduating seniors (1995 – 1999)

Sociology grads self-rating library research skills as fair, good, or excellent	93%
Sociology grads receiving scores of <i>65% or less</i> when tested	81%
History of Art grads self-rating library research skills as fair, good or excellent	100%
History of Art grads receiving scores of <i>65% or less</i> when tested	77%
Political Science grads self-rating library research skills as fair, good, or excellent	96%
Political Science grads receiving scores of <i>65% or less</i> when tested	71%

### Basic Library skills UC Berkeley graduating seniors could not demonstrate

- Identify and use subject headings in a library catalog
- Identify a citation to a book
- Identify a citation to a journal article
- Interpret location information in a journal catalog record

## UCLA undergraduates (2001)

evaluated the Web as the best place to find current and authoritative information for a research paper	78%
could not identify a correct and complete citation for a bibliography	62%
would not footnote if they paraphrased an entire article	56%
were unable to distinguish book citations from journal article citations	50%
would not footnote when copying an entire paragraph	30%
would use a journal article index to locate current and authoritative information	16%

## Johns Hopkins University freshmen (1993)

could not recognize LC call numbers	63%
were unable to distinguish book citations from journal article citations	68%
would search in the library catalog for individual journal articles	85%

## Sources:

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Patti Schifter Caravello, et al. *Assessing the Information Literacy of Undergraduates: Reports from the UCLA Library's Information Competencies Survey Project*. Association of College and Research Libraries 10<sup>th</sup> National Conference, March 15-18, 2001. <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrl/events/caravallo.pdf>

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