

2005 GRADUATE INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAM (GILP) REPORT



The **Graduate Information Literacy Program** has been designed to provide postgraduate research students with the **information searching**, **information management** and **information technology** skills that will be needed to complete a research degree at the ANU. These skills are sought after in the workplace.

The Graduate Information Literacy Program was developed after a needs assessment with graduate students and convenors. It will continue to develop to respond to the changing needs of students.

From
February
to
November
2005
1709
graduate
students
attended
GILP

Courses offered in 2005 were:

- Search Strategies & Topic Analysis
- Selecting & Searching Subject Databases
- Web Searching, Evaluating Web Sites, Citation Searching & Current Awareness Profiles
- Managing the PhD Thesis Production Process
- Issues in Literature Review Writing
- E-Publishing of Theses & Research Papers
- Producing Theses in MS Word 2000 (4 modules)
- EndNote (2 modules)
- LaTeX (4 modules)
- BibTeX (2 modules)

Graduate Information Literacy Program (GILP) – a brief history

The Graduate Information Literacy Program is an integral part of the University's Information Literacy Program, which commenced in 2000.

The Graduate Information Literacy program is funded through the Vice-Chancellor's Plan for Growth and is a joint initiative of the Division of Information and the Graduate School.

The Graduate Program began in 2001 with one full-time co-ordinator and one part-time trainer. During 2001 The Graduate Information Literacy Program taught 4 courses:

- E Publishing of Theses and Research Papers
- The Literature Review
- Managing the Thesis Production Process
- Producing Theses in MS Word (4 module course).

30 courses were run during 2001 and 328 students attended.



Graduate Course Award in Research Information Literacy

In October 2003 approval was given by the **Graduate Degrees Committee** to introduce this **Graduate Course Award in Research Information Literacy** to students who elect to do a comprehensive course in Information Literacy. This award is a semester equivalent course, which is FEE FREE.

For details contact the Graduate Information Literacy Program at grad.ilp@anu.edu.au

What is
Information
Literacy?

With the rapid development of information and communication technologies, the scope and diversity of information used in the learning process has become enormous. Developing the skills, knowledge and fluency to effectively utilise this information is a major challenge for all students. This group of learning outcomes is currently referred to as "**Information Literacy**".

"I've found the Grad ILP to be very useful so far – the standard of teaching in the classes has been very high and the content is pitched at just the right level."
 Cathy Day, PhD Candidate, School of Archaeology and Anthropology



Staff with Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment – 2005 class

"All your sessions are fantastic!"

Who attended Graduate Information Literacy courses in 2005?

The Top Ten (by Faculty/Research School/Centre)

*Asia Pacific School of Economics & Government (APSEG)	*Research School of Biological Sciences (RSBS)
*Faculty of Arts	*Research School of Information, Sciences & Engineering (RSISE)
*Faculty of Asian Studies	*Research School of Social Sciences (RSSS)
*Faculty of Economics & Commerce	*Research School of Pacific & Asian Studies (RSPAS)
*Faculty of Law	
*National Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health (NCEPH)	

The top % (by Course of Study)

PhD students	74%	Masters of Philosophy students	3%
Masters by coursework	17%	Others	6%

Graduate Information Literacy Skills Audit

A Skills Audit was developed, which is available online from the GILP homepage: <http://ilp.anu.edu.au/grad/>. This audit helps students identify their training needs, as the results are returned in the form of a Training Needs Profile.

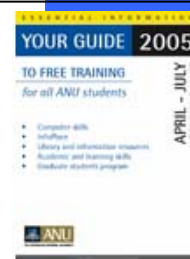
Working with Groups

GILP staff will work with students and academic staff to provide a package of courses that are specifically targeted at the needs of particular graduate student groups. This year training has been provided for **EMD, RSPAS and RSSS, NITA and School of Economics** students. It included IT courses, as well as courses on advanced searching of the library catalogue, databases and the web.

Contact grad.ilp@anu.edu.au to organise specialised information literacy training for graduate groups.

How the GILP courses are advertised

- Full course details and a training schedule are available on the Web - <http://ilp.anu.edu.au/grad/>.
- Courses are listed in the half yearly ILP brochure.
- A monthly e-mail is sent out by the Graduate School to let research students know of forthcoming courses.
- A Graduate Information Literacy Co-ordinator meets with Graduate Academic Advisors to raise awareness of the GILP program.
- Talks are given to student groups at Orientation events and on invitation.
- Course reminder e-mails are sent to students.
- Further enquires about courses can be made by emailing: grad.ilp@anu.edu.au



“... an excellent trainer - very knowledgeable and helpful (as well as patient with computer illiterate people).”

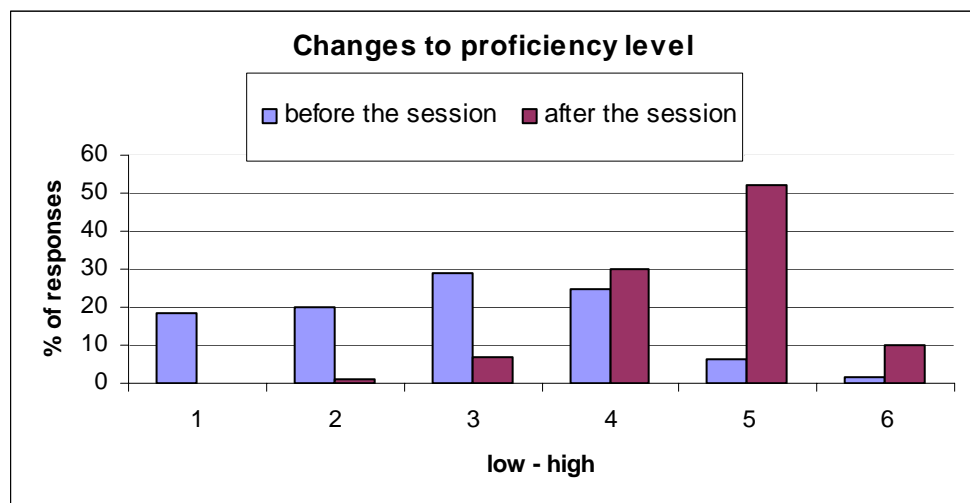
Graduate Information Literacy Courses do make a Difference!

All our courses are evaluated. Hence we know that they are valued by our graduate students. This is how 860 graduate students rated our courses in 2005 (averaged across a continuum from 1=low to 6=high):

Information Searching		Information Management		Information Technology	
Search Strategies and Topic Analysis	5.23	Information Literacy – an Introduction	n/a	E-Publishing of Theses and Research Papers	5.00
Selecting and Searching Subject Databases	5.25	Management of the Thesis Production Process	4.63	Producing Theses in Microsoft Word 2000 (4 modules)	5.23
Web Searching and Evaluating Websites, Citation Searching and Current Awareness Profiles	5.27	Issues in Literature Review Writing	4.98	LaTeX (4 modules)	5.36
		EndNote (2 modules)	5.07		
		BibTeX (2 modules)	5.12		



The graph below indicates our students' subjectively perceived **change in proficiency level** after a session (maroon) – compared to before the session (blue).



“... found it very useful and well presented.”

Training Facilities

Courses are normally offered in Division of Information training laboratories. The majority of courses require students to use computers. Course places are therefore limited, so each student has access to their own computer. The usual class size is 10-12 students. Training rooms are fitted with data projectors, printers and scanners.



Future Developments in the GILP program

- The possible development of Photoshop, Illustrator and GIS courses for students who will need to insert and / or manipulate images and maps in their theses
- Further developments are very dependent on feedback from Graduate School Program Convenors and graduate students on their unfulfilled training needs.
- The Graduate Skills Audit provides students with an opportunity to inform us of their additional training needs.
- Graduate students should make their needs known to their Graduate Program Convenor or they can e-mail us directly at: grad.ilp@anu.edu.au

Meet the GILP trainers:

<i>GILP Program staff:</i>	<i>Other ILP Staff who taught in the GILP program in 2005</i>
Hans-Jörg Kraus Graduate Information Literacy Program Phone: +61 2 612 58886 E-mail Hans-Joerg.Kraus@anu.edu.au	Georgia Costello Access and Learning Officer Chris Edwards Senior Information Analyst Diane Gentry Contract Trainer ILP Mark Hollow Information Access Coordinator
Valerie Perrett Graduate Information Literacy Program Phone: +61 2 612 54518 E-mail Valerie.Perrett@anu.edu.au	Jacqui Kempton Information Access & Training Coordinator Inta Putnis: Social Sciences and Humanities Cluster Virginia Woodland Contract Trainer ILP
<i>Other ANU staff who taught GILP courses in 2005</i>	
Dr Gail Craswell Senior Advisor (Graduate Students) Academic Skills and Learning Centre	Dr Bradley Cummings Associate Lecturer, Musicology, School of Music Dr Chris Wetherell Mathematical Sciences Institute

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