

2006 Graduate Information Literacy Program (GILP) Report

The Graduate Information Literacy Program provides postgraduate research students with the information searching, information management and information technology skills that are needed to complete a research or graduate 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 and respond to the changing needs of students.

Courses offered in 2006 were:

- Search Strategies & Topic Analysis
- Selecting & Searching Subject Databases
- Web Searching & Evaluating Web Sites
- Managing the PhD Thesis Production Process
- Issues in Literature Review Writing
- E-Publishing of Theses & Research Papers
- Producing Theses in MS Word 2003 (4 modules)
- EndNote (2 modules)
- LaTeX (4 modules)
- BibTeX (2 modules)
- C++

What was new in 2006?

Several new initiatives were tried in 2006. A two-day course intensive program (**Weekend with GILP**) was developed to cater to the needs of part-time students. Two programs were organised for weekends in March and August. An additional one-day intensive (**Friday with GILP**) was held in October.

Two GILP courses – **Introduction to Information Literacy** and **E-Publishing for ANU Theses and Research Papers** – were redeveloped for online access. Online interactive support modules and helpsheets (Element K) were also developed to provide students with additional training options.

GILP organised two new individualised 'in-area' programs for the John Curtin school of Media Research and the Research School for Pacific and Asian Studies.



Carrick Award

Since 2001, GILP has built a distinctive program to support the learning needs of postgraduate students. GILP's courses enjoy the support of the University postgraduate community and are especially popular with students undertaking higher research degrees at the ANU.

In recognition of GILP's success, the Carrick Institute awarded the Graduate Information Literacy Program a **Carrick Award for programs that enhance learning**.

The Carrick Institute confers up to 14 Awards for Programs that Enhance Learning. These awards **“recognise learning and teaching support programs and services that make an outstanding contribution to the quality of student learning and the quality of the student experience of higher education”**. The programs and services that receive these awards **“must have demonstrated their effectiveness through rigorous evaluation and will set benchmarks for similar activities in other institutions”** (<http://www.carrickinstitute.edu.au/carrick/go/home>).

Who uses GILP?

Between January and November 2006, 2499 Graduate Students attended GILP training (of those, 380 completed feedback questionnaires). GILP offered 294 training courses in 2006. The average class size was 8-9 students.

Feedback from students by ANU College:

Arts & Social Sciences	23.30%
Asia & The Pacific	34.81%
Business & Economics	9.44%
Engineering & Computer Sciences	4.13%
Law	0.88%
Medicine & Health Sciences	5.31%
Science	22.12%

Graduate course type:

Grad Dip / Honours	9.44%
Masters: Coursework	30.97%
PhD / Masters: Research	59.59%

How 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 ILP training brochure, *The Learn How Guide*. This guide is published twice a year.

A monthly e-mail is circulated to graduate students informing them of forthcoming courses.

A Graduate Information Literacy Co-ordinator meets with Graduate Academic Advisors to raise awareness of the GILP program.

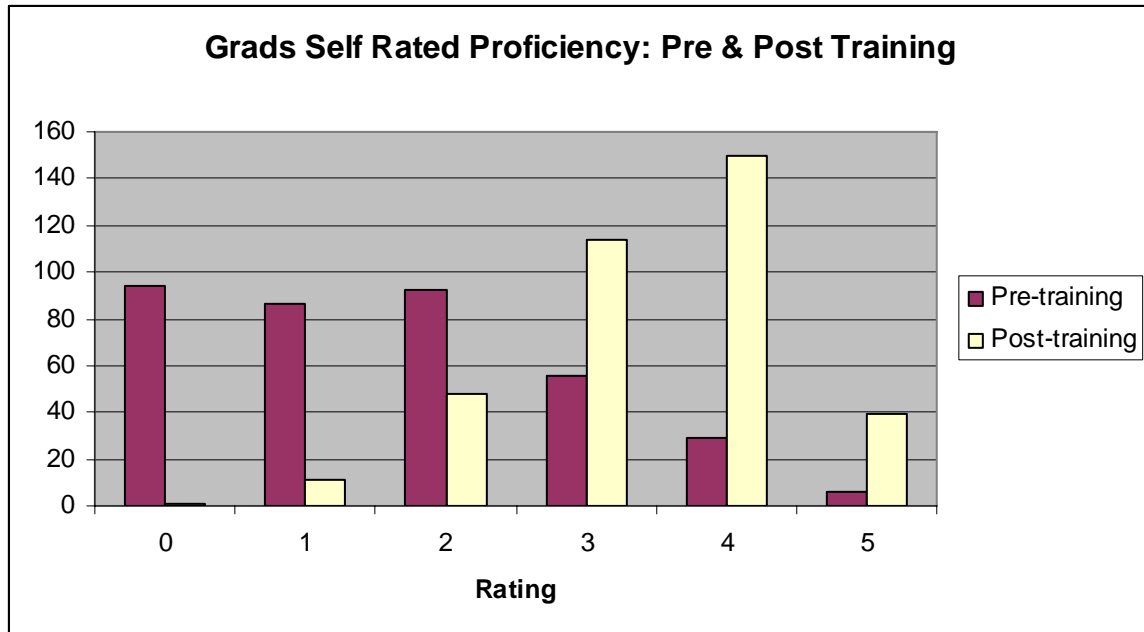
Talks to student groups at Orientation events raise awareness of GILP's courses to new students.

Course reminder e-mails are sent to students prior to training sessions.

Graduate Information Literacy Courses do make a Difference!

Students are asked to evaluate GILP courses so we can measure the effectiveness of our training. The following table shows how 372 graduate students rated our courses in 2006.

The graph indicates how students' subjectively perceived their change in proficiency level after a session (maroon) – compared to before the session (white).



The table below lists the percentage of students who ticked "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" when asked if they were satisfied with the training session attended (based on 372 feedback questionnaires):

Subject	Agree or Strongly Agree
Academic Support	97.50%
Access	100.00%
Basic IL	100.00%
Bibtex	100.00%
Dreamweaver	100.00%
Endnote	97.73%
Excel	93.33%
Latex	94.74%
Library	100.00%
Photoshop	100.00%
Powerpoint	100.00%
Web	100.00%
Word	97.96%
Grand Total	98.12%

Graduate Information Literacy Skills Audit

A Skills Audit is available online from the GILP homepage:

<http://ilp.anu.edu.au/grad/>

This audit helps students identify their training needs; the results are returned in the form of a Training Needs Profile.

Working with Groups

GILP trainers work with students and academic staff to provide a package of courses that are specifically targeted to meet the needs of particular graduate student groups. In 2006, training was provided for **EMD, RSPAS and JCSMR, NITA** and **Crawford School** students. This 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.

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 ideal class size is 10-12 students. Training rooms are fitted with data projectors, printers and scanners.

Future Developments in the GILP program

In response to student demand, future developments might include the possible expansion of Photoshop, Illustrator and GIS courses (for students needing to insert and / or manipulate images and maps in their theses).

GILP will offer **Nvivo** training in 2007. Nvivo is designed to help students manage and analyse data that is not easily reduced to numbers. Nvivo has been especially popular with students undertaking qualitative research in the humanities and social sciences.

The Weekend with GILP concept will be slightly modified and repackaged to become **End the Week with GILP**. The two-day course intensive program will be on Friday and Saturday. Four End the Week with GILP programs are planned for 2007.

The Graduate Skills Audit continues to provide students with an opportunity to inform GILP of their additional training needs. GILP will be responsive to this feedback and plan graduate training accordingly.

Graduate students are encouraged to make their needs known to their Graduate Program Convenor or to e-mail GILP 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 2006</i>
Hans Jörg Kraus Graduate Information Literacy Program Ph: +61 2 612 59561 Email: hans-joerg.kraus@anu.edu.au	Jacqui Kempton Information Access & Training Coordinator Chifley Library
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	Virginia Woodland Contract Trainer ILP
	Jill Johnson Contract Trainer ILP

<i>Other staff who taught GILP courses in 2006</i>	
Valerie Parrett Graduate Information Literacy Program	Dr Bradley Cummings Associate Lecturer, Musicology School of Music
Dr Bryony Wakefield Graduate Information Literacy Program	Dr Chris Wetherell Mathematical Sciences Institute
Dr Gail Craswell Senior Advisor (Graduate Studies) Academic Skills and Learning Centre	

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