PERCEPTIONS OF LIS PROFESSIONALS ON ACRL FRAMEWORK
UNDERSTANDING AND FOSTERING CONCEPTS, SKILLS AND ATTITUDES IN ACADEMIC STUDENTS

Tatiana Sanches
Maria Luz Antunes
Carlos Lopes
CONTENTS

- Why this study
- Information Literacy Framework (ACRL) presentation
- Methods
- Questionnaire Survey
- Results
- Conclusions
WHY THIS STUDY?

In 2016, the ACRL adopts the new Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education, which opens space for pedagogical changes in education and training in Information Literacy.

In Portugal, only in 2022 this document was translated and in 2023 disseminated in large scale.

- How do librarians understand and use the Framework?
- Are they able and willing to integrate it into their pedagogical practices?
The Portuguese Nacional Association of Librarians, Archivists and Information Professionals promoted an online session to present the translated framework

Displayed online the official document https://bad.pt/formacao/projetos/combat_desinformacao/

And other supporting pedagogic documents
The webinar presented each of the frames where pedagogical strategies for combating misinformation were associated. Then, some materials were presented, namely, bookmarkers, PowerPoint slides, and brochures which describe and explain:

• Main concepts of the Framework
• Knowledge practices
• Dispositions
• Initial questions to unleash training sessions
• Topics for reflection
• Further readings
• Strategies against disinformation
The presentation was developed by aligning the principles of critical thinking with each frame and based on the following ideas:

- Remain skeptical, but with an open mind!
  (Authority is constructed and contextual)

- Recognize the meaning of the creation process!
  (Information creation as a process)

- Understand rights and duties when integrated into an academic community!
  (Information has value)

- Recognize that new discoveries occur as a result of various perspectives and interpretations!
  (Research as inquiry)

- Promote in-depth debate and dialogue around knowledge!
  (Scholarship as conversation)

- Understand that information research is a complex and contextualized experience that affects and is affected by the researcher's social, affective, and cognitive dimensions!
  (Searching as strategic exploration)
METHODS

- Survey distributed in the webinar (January 2023)
- 70 (87.5%) female and 10 (12.5%) male; age average 48.3 years old (between 30 and 62)
- Professional background: 59 (73.8%) working in academic libraries
- Seven closed questions and one open question, which was distributed among the participants
Information professionals were asked whether they usually provide IL training to students – 44 (55%) said yes. When asked whether they had prior knowledge of the Framework, the answer remains positive: 48 (60%).
We ask information professionals their previous understanding of each frame.
And because they had just attended the webinar, were then asked about their level of knowledge after learning about the Framework.
They were also asked about the intention to adopt the frames in their regular training offer.
We then tried to determine which knowledge practices information professionals consider most important for students to develop.
When asked about the dispositions or attitudes they consider most important for students to develop, information professionals highlighted the notion of critical awareness and ethics and critical thinking.
Fostered by the Framework translation a project of practical and programmatic application of IL teaching was developed in Portugal.

The Framework offers information professionals a model for reflection on training and learning strategies.

Academic students were not forgotten; they have here a unique opportunity to also reflect on their learning.

As a guiding document, the introduction of the Framework in academic students' education allows for the renewal of the information literacy assessment program towards a new assessment model based on strategies and outcomes.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ACRL (Association of College & Research Libraries)
American Embassy in Lisbon
BAD (Portuguese Association of Librarians, Archivists, Documentalists and Information Professionals)
Creative Designers Ana Luísa Farinha, Diogo Sequeira

This work is financed by national funds from FCT – Foundation for Science and Technology under UIDB/04107/2020- Unidade de Investigação e Desenvolvimento em Educação e Formação, Instituto de Educação, Universidade de Lisboa.
THANK YOU!

European Conference on Information Literacy (ECIL)
Krakow, Poland
9-12 October 2023