



**For students to learn, they must know how to physically and intellectually access, engage with, and use information in its varied formats.**

“ICT proficiency is the ability to use digital technology, communication tools, and/or networks appropriately to solve information problems in order to function in an information society. This includes the ability to use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate, and communicate information and the possession of a fundamental understanding of the ethical/legal issues surrounding the access and use of information.” (ETS, 2003, 11)

**ICT literacy involves developmental growth: cognitively, technically, and emotionally. It can be integrated into the curriculum throughout a student’s academic journey: in their first year experience, as part of their general education, in writing across the curriclum, in their major, and as an aspect of a capstone experience.**

**The ICT Literacy Project’s portal provides a variety of supports for the academic community.**

Within MERLOT thousands of learning objects apply to ICT literacy, starting with the category: **MERLOT Communities: Academic Support Services: Information and Communication Technology Literacy** with the following subcategories, listed alphabetically:

* ICT Standards
* Searching and Evaluating Information
* Legal and Ethical Issues
* Instructional Design
* Media and Visual Literacy
* Research Skills
* Subject-specific Information Literacy

An Editorial Board reviews these materials.

**Several other categories** include ICT literacy learning objects that cut across disciplines. MERLOT **Academic Domain Communities** also offer ICT Literacy resources

Several **subject-specific guides** – “ICT Literacy in … “ and cross-disciplinary **bookmark collections** address ICT literacy, such as:

* Information Behaviors
* ICT Legal Issues
* ICT Literacy Assessment

 Infographics

* Social Media Literacy
* ICT Literacy Research
* Writing Research Papers

As a MERLOT member, you can **contribute** and review materials for MERLOT’s database, join ICT literacy **discussions**, and **create bookmarks, learning exercises, and web-based courses**, each with a unique URL.

**The ICT Library Project portal** <http://teachingcommons.cdl.edu/ictliteracy/> offers standards, assessment, faculty resources, research, and professional development.

***Why ICT literacy?***

ICT (Information and Communications Technology) addresses information in all formats. In today's global society, learners need to be information and digitally literate so they can find, use and communicate ideas effectively and responsibly.

***Why ICT literacy in higher education?***

Of course, ICT literacy applies to more than the next research paper. With hybrid and online learning ICT has even more impact; technology has expanded the possible methods of representing and communicating ideas. Most higher ed institutions include ICT (perhaps under other names) in general education because it is considered a life skill. ICT also helps diverse students connect subject matter, and helps them prepare for the Real World. It's important to explicitly address ICT in your courses; you may well be doing it already, so give your course credit for that. The key is to match the teaching and learning objective with the right resource in the most effective medium, and support students’ ICT literacy so they can take advantage of those resources to gain and create knownledge.

***How does ICT Literacy fit with other CSU Initiatives?***

The ICT Literacy Project complements Affordable Learning Solutions, Course Redesign, General Education and Student Engagement.

The California State University

**CSU’s Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy Program supports the integration of ICT literacy into the curriculum.**

The ICT literacy academic support community in the CSU includes discipline faculty, library faculty, administrators and other stakeholders who share a common interest in enhancing the quality of teaching and learning for students so that they will graduate with the necessary critical ICT knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful information consumers and producers.

 To that end, the ICT Literacy community is an open-ended learning environment that includes resources, services, and communication.

[**http://teachingcommons.cdl.edu/ictliteracy/**](http://teachingcommons.cdl.edu/ictliteracy/)

**Introducing ICT Literacy**

## ABOUT MERLOT

MERLOT is an international community of faculty, staff, students, administrators, librarians and others in eduation interested in discovering, using and sharing Open Educational Resources (OER) for the improvemennt of technology-enhanced teaching and learning.

The MERLOT community, which began in 1997, has developed a unique and globally-reknowned collection of more than 60,000 online learning materials, all of which have been peer- or crowd-source reviewed by members of the community.

MERLOT is a free resource, and is sustained through the support of high education institutions from around the world, led by the California State University, in partnership with professional societies and industries.

