



Harnessing the web: web information, February 2005

HARNESSING THE WEB:
tips from a bare foot librarian

prepared for *Effective search retrieval and navigation*
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Course description


- the nature of web information – aims to give an information management perspective to the web
- metadata explained – aims to transfer basic metadata allocation skills using the Australian Government Locator Service
- finding and evaluating web information – aims to impart evaluation methods



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Exercise 1

Introductions





Spot check

- Web information is challenging and can be difficult to manage
- The web enables us to read and publish material easily and speedily
- The web's anarchic nature means that it can be difficult to find and evaluate information in an effective manner



The nature of the web

Web information is

- Tangential
- Fluid
- Alluring



Internet advantages

- Access to once exclusive information
- Access to most current information
- Global access and coverage
- Anonymous nature



Internet limitations

- No central authority
- Access to information without any moderation
- Access to inaccurate information
- Overwhelming quantities



Challenges posed by the web

- Sheer amount of information
- Deep vs surface world wide web
- Rapidly changing nature of information
- Balancing traditional and new media forms
- Judging veracity and trustworthiness of web files
- Creating and responding to digital communications



Information literacy

- Determine the extent of information needed
- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently
- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Incorporate selected information into one's knowledge base
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information, and access and use information ethically and legally (2)





Web information literacy

Searching/storing needs:

- practical skills
- content skills
- critical skills



E - literacy

An e-literate person can demonstrate information literacy skills in an electronic/on-line context.



Exercise 2

How do you use web information?
