

Research Skills Certificate of Competency Program Narrative

Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

The goal of the Certificate of Competency in Research Skills is to provide basic instruction in information literacy and research skills, which serve as a foundation for success in academic and vocational programs, workforce preparation and development, and personal lifelong learning.

LIS 511, 512, and 513 are designed to support first-time and/or under-prepared students in developing the basic skills of information literacy and a general understanding of academic research necessary to succeed in credit coursework. These courses are part of a noncredit educational program, which 1) involves a set of competencies that prepare the student to progress in a career path or to undertake degree-applicable or nondegree-applicable credit courses and 2) results in a noncredit Certificate of Competency in Research skills (Cal. Code Regs. title 5 § 55151).

Program Learning Outcomes

- Apply information literacy skills to academic, professional, and personal life.
- Complete a basic research project from topic development to information source selection, evaluation, and citation.
- Analyze, synthesize, and apply information practically and ethically.

Item 2. Catalog Description

The Certificate of Competency in Research Skills is designed to provide students with a foundation in information literacy, critical thinking, ethical use of information, and research. This certificate is intended to improve the research and information literacy skills of student desiring to increase their capacity for pursuing college-level coursework, gaining employment in today's digital workforce, and community engagement. Students enrolled in the Research Skills program may use the certification as a means of providing college instructors and employers of their ability to find, evaluate, and use credible and relevant information in an ethical manner.

Students are required to complete three courses for a total of six (6) instructional hours. Each course must be completed with a grade of Pass or Satisfactory Progress.

Item 3. Program Requirements

Certificate of Competency: Research Skills

Requirements	Dept. Name/#	Name	Hours	Sequence
Required Core (3 courses)	LIS 511	Research Skills 1	2	Year 1, Fall or Spring
	LIS 512	Research Skills 2	2	Year 1, Fall or Spring
	LIS 513	Research Skills 3	2	Year 1, Fall or Spring

Required Core Total: 6 hours

TOTAL HOURS: 6 hours

Item 4. Master Planning

The Certificate of Competency in Research Skills supports the California Community Colleges' mission to 1) provide remedial instruction, adult noncredit instruction, and support services which help students who need it to succeed at the postsecondary level of education and 2) advance California's economic growth and global competitiveness through education, training, and services that contribute to continuous work force improvement (Cal. Ed. Code § 66010.4).

The certificate addresses the mission of College of Alameda to enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve by helping students to attain knowledge, master skills, and develop the appreciation, attitudes and values needed to succeed and participate responsibly in a democratic society and a global economy. It is designed to impart crucial skills necessary for success in our information-saturated society. The courses develop students' ability to navigate the information landscape in everyday life and work situations, as well as prepare for matriculation into other academic programs. The curriculum also contributes to the achievement of the College's institutional learning outcomes.