

Media Information Literacy Empowerment: Key Digital Age Prerequisite for Faculty Development

Living in the Digital Age, as a responsible scholar, requires learning and mastery of Media Information Literacy (MIL) competencies. MIL (1) has been launched by UNESCO since 2013, as a global strategy for open education empowerment. MIL, as a new concept of literacy with new approach to teaching and learning, empowers faculty members and students as informed users and lifelong learners. In addition, the ongoing advances in Open Educational Resources (OERs) (2) under Creative Commons Attribution License (CC) requires continuous efforts for capacity building of academic users to retain, re-use, re-mix, re-create and re-distribute (5Rs) as recommended by the global professional community at the 2nd OER World Congress (2017).

At the age of big data, while each node of global networks become sources of information and knowledge construction, the society as a whole becomes a pedagogical arena. In our connected, complex 21st century world, in order to meet global pedagogical and technological challenges, it is urgent to invest towards the continuous improvement of students learning outcomes, in term of transferable knowledge, skills, and competencies. This requires strategic re-thinking, redesign, reconstruction and revitalization of faculty development programs.

This paper, given our pedagogical perspective and socio-constructivist approach, aims to illustrate Media Information Literacy (MIL) competencies as a key prerequisite for improved deep learning and uptake in a specific domain specific higher education related context: ACM SIGCHI Iran Chapter (3). Integrating learning analytics and MIL competencies measures improves the overall teaching-learning experience and most importantly students learning outcomes.

The three levels of MIL competencies are assessed based on a global framework and related to deep learning indicators analyzed based on context specific field data. The concluding recommendation consists of MIL policy and strategy uptake, as a national strategic policy and practice, towards capacity building and empowered responsible scholars in knowledge society.

Keywords: Media Information Literacy (MIL) Competencies Open Educational Resources (OERs), Learning Analytics, Deep Learning, Empowerment, ACM SIGCHI Iran Chapter.

(1) <https://en.unesco.org/themes/media-and-information-literacy>

(2) <https://en.unesco.org/themes/ict-education/oer>

(3) <https://sigchi.org/get-involved/local-chapters> ; <http://www.sigchi.ir>