Longitudinal Growth of Students' Information Literacy Skills at JMU

At JMU, Information Literacy skills are addressed through the Cluster 1 requirement of the general education program. The two assessment instruments used to measure information literacy are the InfoCore and the Madison Research Essentials Skills Test (MREST). Both the MREST and the Infocore have a designated number of items that are mapped to each of the 6 Student Learning Outcomes within Cluster 1. Most JMU students are required to pass the MREST prior to graduation, but the InfoCore is only completed by a small cohort of students on Assessment day. The purpose of our project is to determine if JMU students' information literacy skills improve across time. We only considered examinees who took all three exams (InfoCore Fall 2018, MREST, InfoCore Fall 2020) and generalized our results to the entire JMU student population. Overall, our results suggest that students' information literacy increase while attending JMU.