



# SAILS Summary Comparison—Year 5

## CORE 110 (Fall 2012) vs Capstone (2015-2016)

In 2011-2012, Abilene Christian University (ACU) began its implementation of *Pursuit*, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The plan envisioned three specific, well-defined curricular goals, each clearly articulated in student learning outcomes. The first student-learning outcome is “Students will understand and appropriately use scholarly sources.” More specifically, students will:

1. Determine the nature and extent of the information needed,
2. Access needed information effectively and efficiently, and
3. Use information ethically and legally.

In order to assess student progress at achieving these outcomes, the Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (SAILS) was given to students enrolled in CORE 110 (Cornerstone) during the first three weeks of class and then repeated during the senior capstone course. Scores for students entering in fall 2012 were compared to the scores of students enrolled in Capstone experiences during the fall and spring of 2015-2016. Overall scores, standard error, and true group average scores for each year are compared on the next two pages. In addition to a comparison between the groups, scores for ACU, scores for institutions of the same type (Masters), and scores for all institutions are provided for comparisons.

Initially, students entering in fall 2012 performed *about the same* as the Institution Type benchmark on 4 skills sets, and *worse than* the institution type on the remaining 4 skills sets. After 3 years, comparison data shows the following results:

- Overall scores have increased significantly.
- Standard errors have decreased, showing student scores have less variability and are performing more consistently on the SAILS skills sets.
- Capstone students at Abilene Christian University performed **BETTER THAN** the institution-type benchmark on ALL SAILS Skills Sets, including the following:
  - Developing a Research Strategy
  - Selecting Finding Tools
  - Searching
  - Using Finding Tool Features
  - Retrieving Sources
  - Evaluating Sources
  - Documenting Sources
  - Understanding Economic, Legal, and Social Issues.
- This group of entering students in CORE 110 in fall 2012 did NOT perform better than the Institution-type benchmark on ANY skill set.

## SAILS Summary Data— Cornerstone Fall 2012

Detailed results from Fall 2012 SAILS Skills Sets results and alignment with *Pursuit* objectives are found below:

<b>Fall 2012</b>		Abilene Christian University  n=695**	Institution Type: Masters  n=26,703	All Institutions  n=66,882
<b>Pursuit Objective</b>	<b>SAILS Skill Sets*</b>			
1.1.A	1. Developing a Research Strategy	494 ± 4 (490, 498)	503 + 1 (502, 504)	502 + 0
	2. Selecting Finding Tools	498 ± 5 (493, 503)	507 + 1 (506, 508)	504 + 1 503, 505)
	3. Searching	464 ± 4 (460, 468)	484 + 1 (483, 485)	484 + 0
	4. Using Finding Tool Features	506 ± 6 (500, 512)	530 + 1 (529, 531)	531 + 1 530, 532)
1.1.B	5. Retrieving Sources	488 ± 6 (482, 494)	518 + 1 (517, 519)	518 + 1 (517, 519)
	6. Evaluating Sources	473 ± 5 (468, 478)	481 + 1 (480, 482)	477 + 0
1.1.C	7. Documenting Sources	444 ± 6 (438, 450)	473 + 1 (472, 474)	474 + 1 (473, 475)
	8. Understanding Economic, Legal, and Social Issues	448 ± 5 (443, 453)	466 + 1 (465, 467)	464 + 0

\*The Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (SAILS) is a knowledge test with multiple-choice questions targeting a variety of information literacy skills. Questions on the SAILS test are based directly on two documents authored by the Association of College and Research Libraries. Project SAILS is located at Kent State University in Ohio.

\*\* 695 Students completed the test out of 961 students enrolled in CORE 110.

# SAILS Summary Data— Capstone 2015-2016

Detailed results from students enrolled in Capstone during Fall 2014 and Spring 2015. SAILS Skills Sets results and alignment with *Pursuit* objectives are found below:

<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>SAILS Skill Sets*</b>	<b>Abilene Christian University n=346**</b>	<b>Institution Type: Masters n=26,020</b>	<b>All Institutions n=62,246</b>
<b><i>Pursuit</i> Objective</b>	<b>Overall Scores, Standard Error, and True Group Average Score</b>			
1.1.A	1. Developing a Research Strategy	549 ± 6 (543, 555)	511 + 1 (510, 512)	510 + 0
	2. Selecting Finding Tools	560 ± 7 (553, 567)	515 + 1 (514, 516)	509 + 1 (508, 510)
	3. Searching	532 ± 6 (526, 538)	493 + 0	489 + 0
	4. Using Finding Tool Features	555 ± 8 (547, 563)	535 + 1 (534, 536)	528 + 1 (527, 529)
1.1.B	5. Retrieving Sources	566 ± 8 (558, 574)	523 + 1 (522, 524)	518 + 1 (517, 519)
	6. Evaluating Sources	518 ± 7 (511, 525)	477 + 1 (476, 478)	474 + 0
1.1.C	7. Documenting Sources	540 ± 8 (532, 548)	492 + 1 (491, 493)	480 + 1 (479, 481)
	8. Understanding Economic, Legal, and Social Issues	519 ± 7 (512, 526)	475 + 1 (474, 476)	471 + 1 (470, 472)

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\*\* 346 students completed the test out of 880 students enrolled in Capstone courses.