



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



• UNITWIN Cooperation Programme on  
• Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue  
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## Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University

Faculty of Arts and Humanities Sais- Fes, Morocco

**“The Research Group on Mass Communication, Culture and society”**  
**The Laboratory of “Discourse, Creativity and Society: Perception and Implications”**

### ORGANIZE

An International Conference on

***Information Literacy Education as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Survival Skill in Academia***  
**December 23-24, 2019**

## CALL FOR PAPERS

In celebration of the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) annual Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week, taking place this year in Gothenburg (Sweden), and since Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University is a founding member of the UNESCO UNAOC UNITWIN Global Chair on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue, the Research Group on Mass Communication, Culture and Society affiliated to the Research Laboratory: “ **Discourse, Creativity and Society: Perception and Implications**”, will organize an International Conference on “*Information Literacy Education as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Survival Skill in Academia* on 23-24 December, 2019 at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities Sais Fes, Morocco.

Information literacy (IL) attempts to develop both the critical understanding and active participation at all levels of society. It empowers individuals with a set of abilities and critical thinking skills, which serve as indispensable keys for becoming independent lifelong learners.

Information literacy education (ILE) has long been identified as fundamental for academic success by a range of professionals, including teachers, academics, librarians and researchers. A detailed examination of the range of views on this topic support the idea that ILE provides the framework for students and researchers to learn how to identify their

information needs, locate and access the needed information, critically evaluate and use information in a variety of forms and in different contexts effectively and efficiently. ILE skills are a vital tool for effective learning, leading to positive outcomes in all areas of students' lives.

Yet, a close examination of Moroccan universities curricula and university courses shows that there is lack of IL skills in the educational agenda. Despite the reform undertaken by the ministry of education in 2009 to respond to the requirements of the digital age, IL is still in its infancy in Morocco. Education policy makers are required to integrate ILE in higher education to foster such critical thinking skills, problem solving skills, decision skills, effective and efficient use of information to meet the academic challenges of the twenty-first century requirements.

## **Conference Goals**

The conference aims to bring together researchers, library and information services practitioners, university teachers, educators, policy makers, doctoral students, and other related stakeholders from Morocco and beyond for the purpose of exchanging knowledge, sparking ideas, and discussing current developments and challenges in the field of teaching and learning IL in both theory and practice. While the main focus will be on Information Literacy skills, their role in higher education and their impact on students' success, the conference committee encourages contributions on a range of themes addressing the following topics:

- Information literacy
- Information literacy education skills in higher education
- The state of art of information literacy education in Morocco and the Arab World
- The role of libraries and librarians in education
- Faculty-librarian collaboration to integrate information skills in education
- The role of libraries in students' academic success
- Information literacy and ethical/social issues
- Information literacy and digital empowerment
- Information literacy and social change
- Information literacy across disciplines
- News literacy
- Fake news
- Digital literacy
- Critical thinking

## **Deadlines:**

- Abstract Submission: November **30, 2019**
- Notification of Acceptance: December **5, 2019**
- Submission of Final Papers Ready for Publication: March **15, 2020**  
Manuscripts: WORD Form; Times New Romans 12; Standard Page Format; 7000 words maximum.

## **Working Languages: English**

## **Submissions:**

- Submissions of abstracts are to be done by e-mail to: [an.medialiteracyforum@gmail.com](mailto:an.medialiteracyforum@gmail.com);  
cc: nfissichouit@gmail.com
- Maximum length of abstracts is 300 words.
  
- The following details are required:
  - Name, title (Dr., Prof., etc.) organizational affiliation, and e-mail address
  - Title of the paper
  - Short biographical sketch of each participant, including main publications.

**Please note** that applicants whose papers are accepted for presentation in the conference should take in charge their round ticket to Fez, Morocco and their accommodation, while the organizers will cater for lunch for two days.

### **Contact Information:**

For further details/enquiries, please contact:

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### **Organizing Committee**

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