What is Information Competency?
It is the ability to recognize when you need information and then be able to find, evaluate, and use that information effectively.

Purpose of Exam
The Information Competency Proficiency Exam tests students’ information competency skills. Students who receive a score of at least 70% on this exam fulfill the Information Competency proficiency graduation requirement at Mission College.

Is There a Course at Mission College that Fulfills the Information Competency Requirement?
Yes. Students who are unable to pass the proficiency exam can take the one-unit course Library 10: Information Competency. Passing this course fulfills the Information Competency proficiency graduation requirement at Mission College. For information about Library 10 go to http://www.missioncollege.edu/lib/librarycourses.html.

When and Where is the Exam Given
The exam is administered in the Placement/Assessment Services office on the Mission College Campus (Student Engagement Center #109). Students do not need to make an appointment. Please refer to the Assessment Center Web page for the hours of operation or call the Assessment Center office at 408.855.5099.

What to Take With You on Test Day
Please bring your Mission College ID Card, or if you do not have that, please bring any form of picture ID and your Social Security Card. There is no charge for the exam.

Testing Regulations
Students currently enrolled in Library 10 Information Competency are not eligible to take the exam. Students may take the exam up to two times per year.

Notebooks, dictionaries, calculators, cell phones, pagers, and mobile devices are not allowed in the Assessment Center. Furthermore, anyone who gives or receives help during the exam will not be permitted to continue the exam. Students will not be allowed to access personal accounts, such as email, Google Drive, and Drop Box, on the Assessment Center computers. Following the exam, no exam material or notes may be removed from the room.

The Assessment Center has a MLA Style resource guide available for students to use during the exam. Also, students may use the Internet to access resources.
Special Arrangements for Disabled Students
If you have a disability that will prevent you from taking the exam under standard conditions, you may request special accommodations. Please contact the Disability Instructional Support Center (DISC) at (408) 855-5085 or TTY (408) 727-9243 to schedule an appointment.

Exam Results
Results will be available in the Placement/Assessment Services office 10 business days after the exam. Current picture identification is required when receiving exam results. No results will be given over the phone or via email.

Description of Exam
The exam is worth 100 points and there are four parts. Parts I & 2 include 22 multiple choice, True/False, or fill-in-the-blank questions worth 2 points each. Parts 3 & 4 include eight essay questions worth a total of 78 points. Parts 2 – 4 require Internet use. Students will be required to find, evaluate, and create a MLA bibliographic citation for at least three different types of resources. Note that as part of the evaluation process you will need to explain why you think a resource has authority and accuracy.

The Placement/Assessment Services office has a MLA Style handout (based on the 8th edition) available for students to use during the exam, as well as copies of the following handouts: Evaluating Books and Articles for Academic Use and Evaluating Web Pages for Academic Use (All are available in the Library and at http://www.missioncollege.edu/lib/handouts.html.). Also, students may use the Internet to access resources.

The exam has a 120 minute time limit.

Preparation for the Exam

- Review the following Mission College Library handouts: Evaluating Books and Articles for Academic Use, Evaluating Web Pages for Academic Use, and Types of Periodicals. All are available in the Library and at http://www.missioncollege.edu/lib/handouts.html.

- Complete the online, self-paced tutorial OASIS: Online Advancement of Student Information Skills from San Francisco State University (http://libguides.sfsu.edu/c.php?g=331114&p=2223294)

For additional online resources go the Mission College Information Competency guide: http://libguides.missioncollege.edu/infocomp