

Digital Literacy in Adult Education: the undercurrent of adult learning in the 21st century

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Presenters

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The Faces of Adult Learners in the Digital Divide



Defining Digital Literacy

Digital literacy is the ability to **use information** and communication technologies to find, **understand**, **evaluate**, **create**, and **communicate** digital information, an ability that requires both cognitive and technical skills.

- *American Libraries Association OITP Digital Literacy Task Force*



How do you engage with those in the Digital Divide?

On the card you've just received, please note:

1) The type of Adult Education you are involved in
(e.g. ESL, GED, Literacy, etc.)

2) And answer this question:

“What is the greatest challenge your students face concerning Digital Literacy?”



Broadband Equation:

Broadband coverage ≠ adoption ≠ utilization

Coverage = availability of affordable broadband to end users

Adoption = rate that end-users connect to broadband service

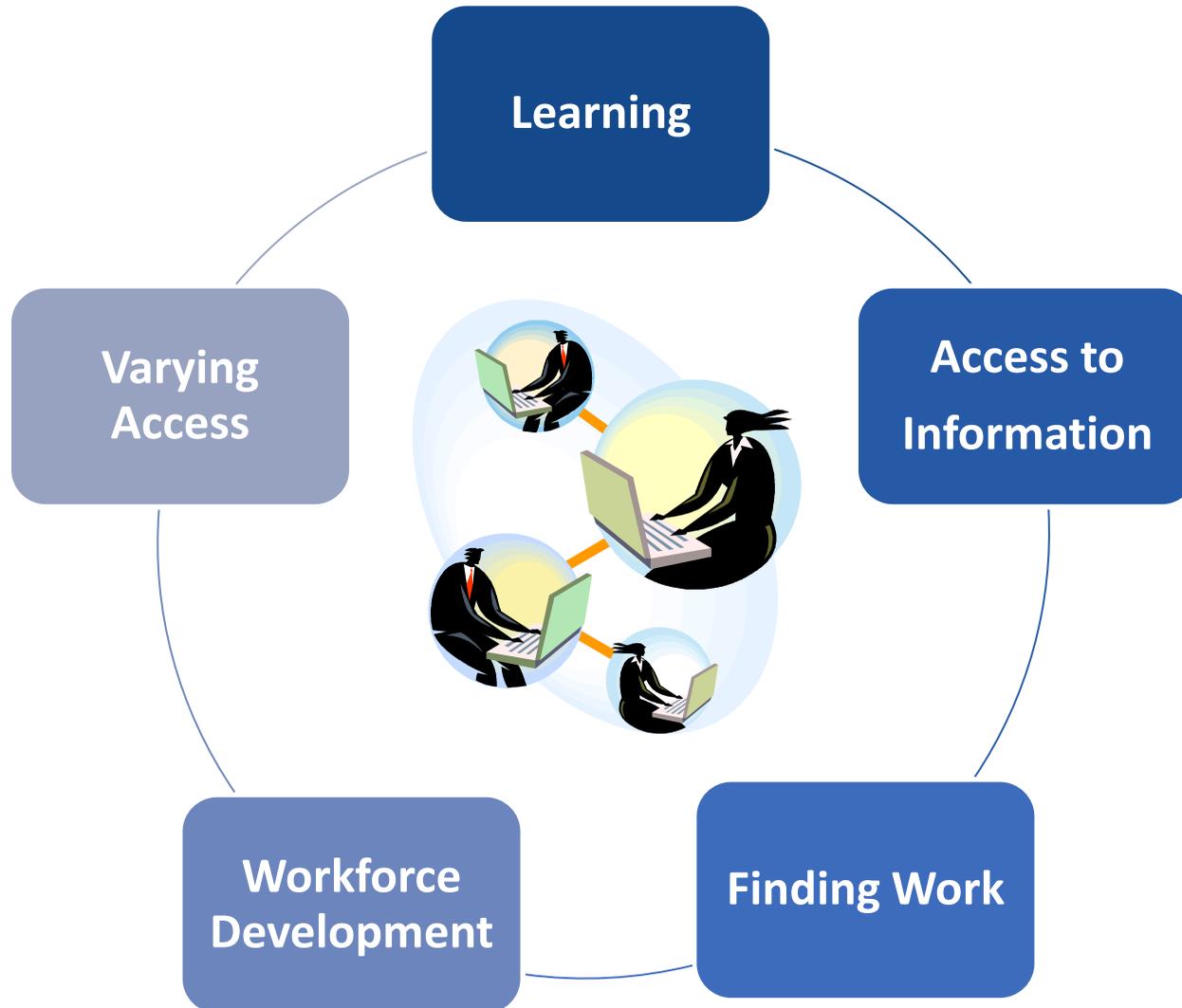
Utilization = rate that end-users are using e-solutions to increase their productivity, competitiveness, level and reach of service

*29% of Rhode Island adults do not use the Internet today and lack basic digital literacy skills to post resumes, search for jobs, apply for unemployment, and perform basic online functions.
This is the so-called “Digital Divide.”*



Why Does Digital Literacy Matter?

Digital literacy matters because of the opportunities it creates.



Relevance to Rhode Island

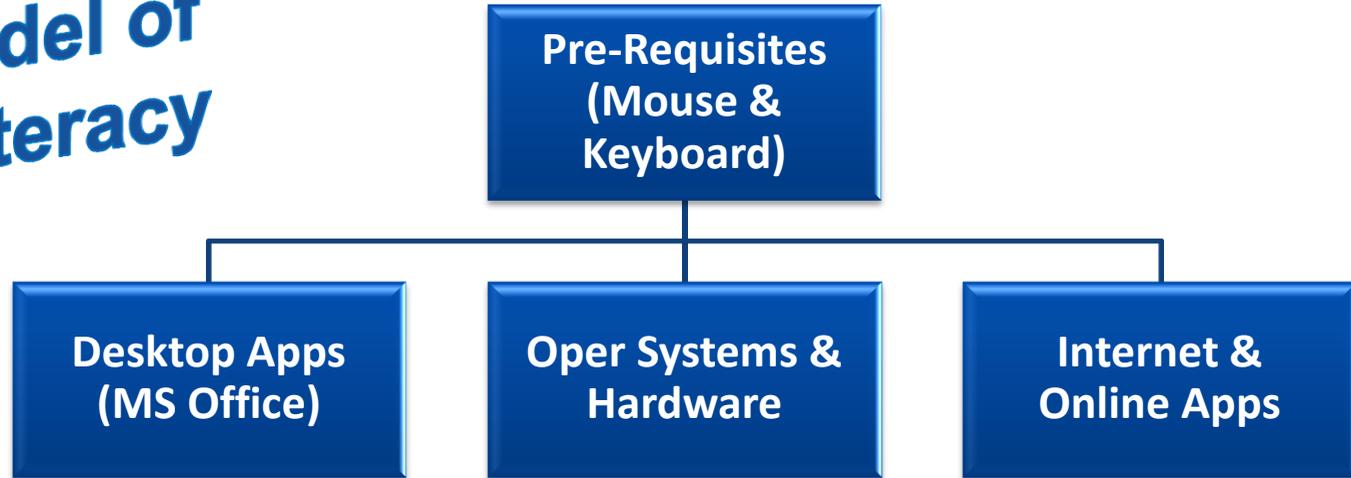
“General Principle: *For every one-point increase in the percent of U.S. households with broadband, nearly 300,000 jobs will be added to the economy.*”

– *Brookings Institution Study*



Digital literacy and access to information is critical to closing the digital divide and giving all citizens equal opportunity to jobs and connection to healthcare, safety, government, education, community – all contributing to a healthier economy.

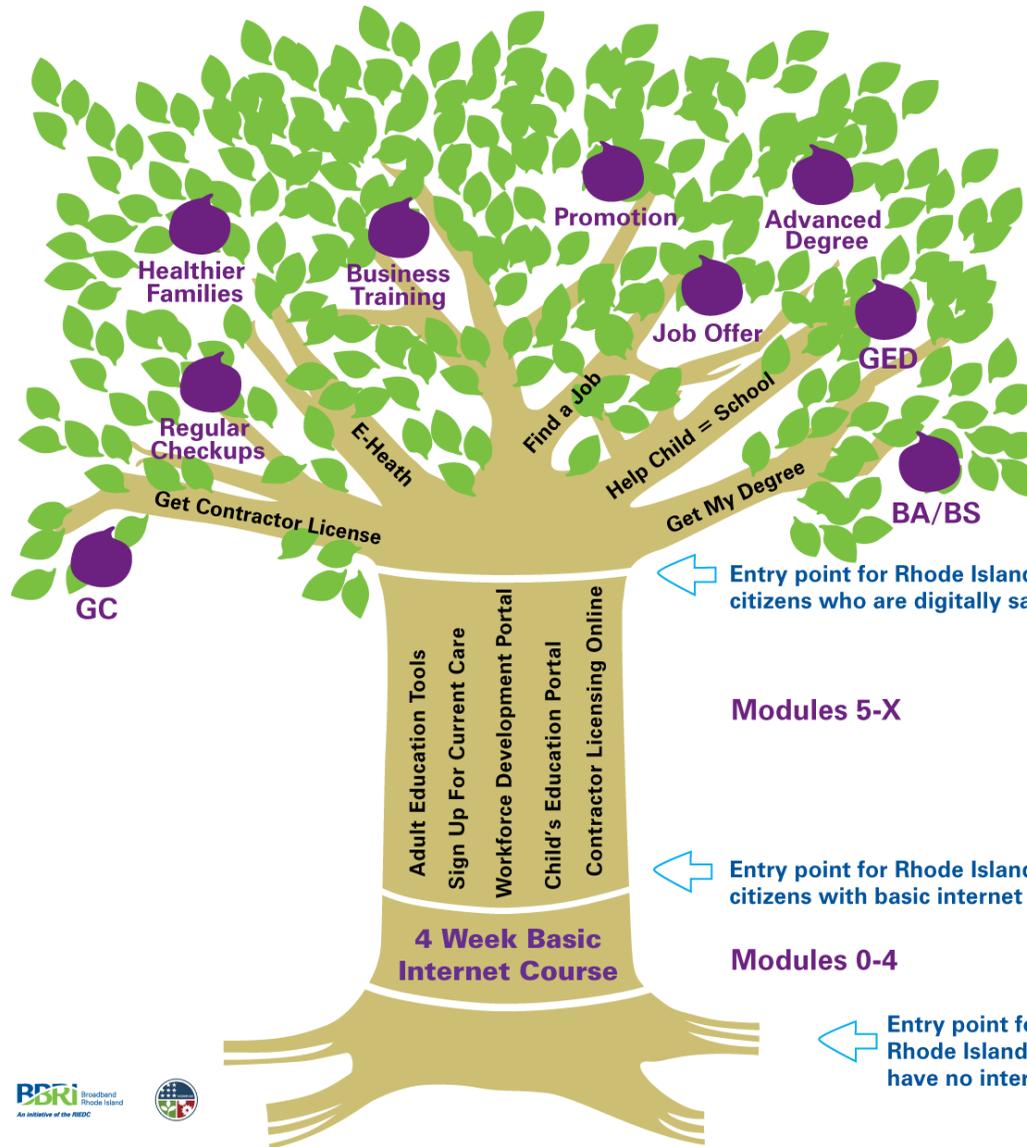
Early Model of Digital Literacy



Recent Model of Digital Literacy



How Does BBRI Address Digital Literacy?



BBRI Digital Literacy Program
An initiative of Broadband Rhode Island

Economic Development Into an Internet World *Tree of Prosperity*

Each leaf represents a Rhode Islander that is actively engaged in digital citizenship. Using the tools and programs of their choosing to make a better life for them and their families

The network of branches at the top of the tree represent the Cloud.

Entry point for Rhode Island citizens who are digitally savvy.

Modules 5-X

Entry point for Rhode Island citizens with basic internet skills

Modules 0-4

Entry point for 1/3 of all Rhode Island citizens who have no internet experience.

Your Resources for Digital Literacy:

The Training Network



- Instructors and Class Materials



- Class Locations



- Community Outreach Partners

The Digital Literacy “Portal”

- Instructor Resources and “Open Source” Curriculum

- Class and Event Schedules

- Community Contacts

<http://literacy.broadband.ri.gov>



Internet Basics Curriculum

(Available in English & Spanish)

<http://literacy.broadband.ri.gov/resources/curriculum/>



The BBRI Digital Literacy Internet Basics Curriculum

* Note: There is an optional 'Module 0' for Mouse and Keyboard Basics

Basic Internet Skill

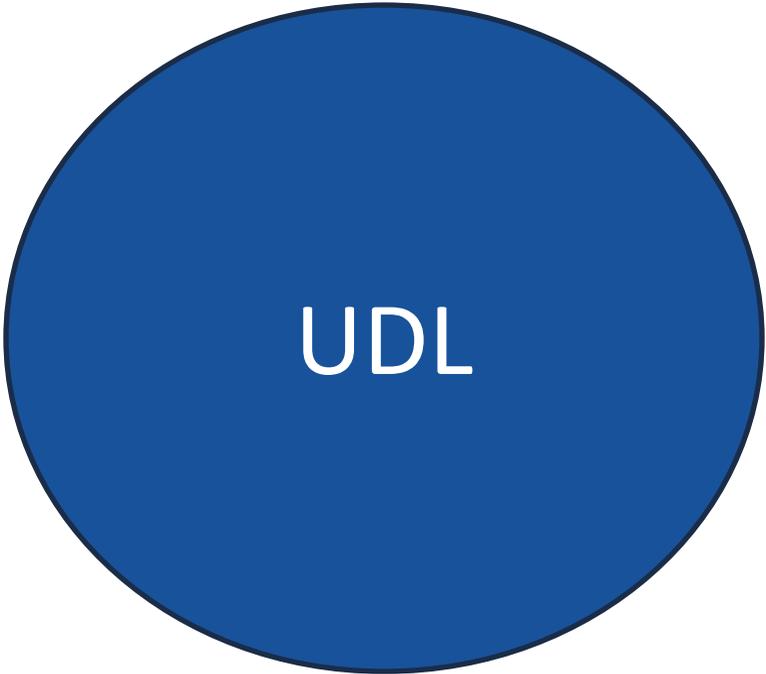
- Navigation
- Search
- Communication
- Protection
- Explore



Curricular Component

- Browser and Website Basics
- Google and Library Resources
- Email
- Safety & Privacy Basics
- Capstone Class





UDL

Universal Design for
Learning

*What's it all
about? Variation*

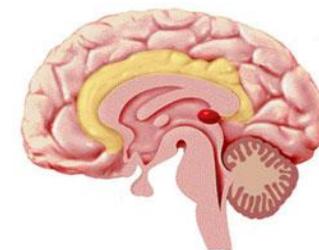
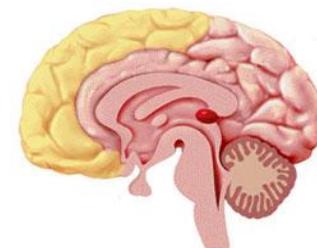
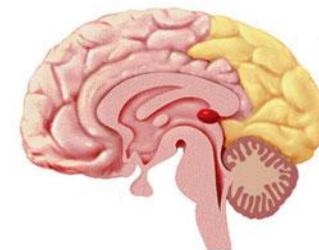
SUPPORTS VARIATION
by applying
MULTIPLE MEANS
in
DESIGN AND DELIVERY of
INSTRUCTION

Applied in a “Spiral Curriculum”



The 3 Core Principles of UDL

- **Multiple Means of Representation**
– To increase recognition
- **Multiple Means of Action & Expression**
– To expand options for output
- **Multiple Means of Engagement**
– To enhance involvement



UDL Relevance for adult learners

- UDL Step 1: Convert **curriculum** from “text-heavy” to be more engaging, visually-accessible, easy-to-use.
- UDL Step 2: Integrate **content on UDL** into the Instructor Workshop.
- UDL Step 3: Training **scenarios** representing a range of varied DL learners.
- UDL Step 4: Exemplary **UDL models** that support scenario activities.
- UDL Step 5: Vary **instructional methods** to model diversified instruction & exemplify UDL in practice.
- UDL Step 6: UDL **resources** via Digital Literacy Portal



The BBRI Digital Literacy Internet Basics Curriculum

Basic Internet Skill

- **Navigation**



Curricular Component

- **Browser and Website Basics**



Module 1 – Browser and Webpages (Skill = Navigation)

Key Concepts and Vocabulary Terms

Address Bar

Browser Menu

Link

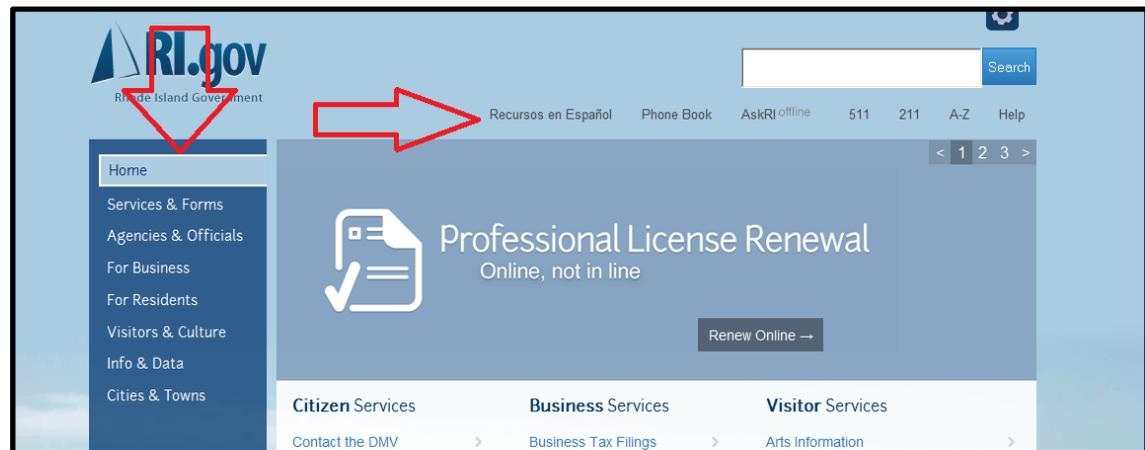
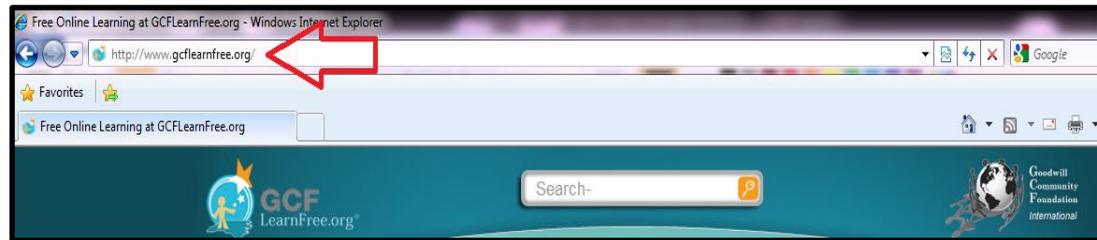
Navigation Bar (of a website)

Search Bar

Scroll Bar

URL (Web Address)

Web Browser



The BBRI Digital Literacy Internet Basics Curriculum

Basic Internet Skill

- Navigation
- Search



Curricular Component

- Browser and Website Basics
- Google and Library Resources



Module 2 – Searching

(Skill = Search)

Key Concepts and Vocabulary Terms

Online Advertisements

Browsing (websites & search results)

Back/Forward Buttons

Copy-and-paste

Database

Facets

Forms

Home Button

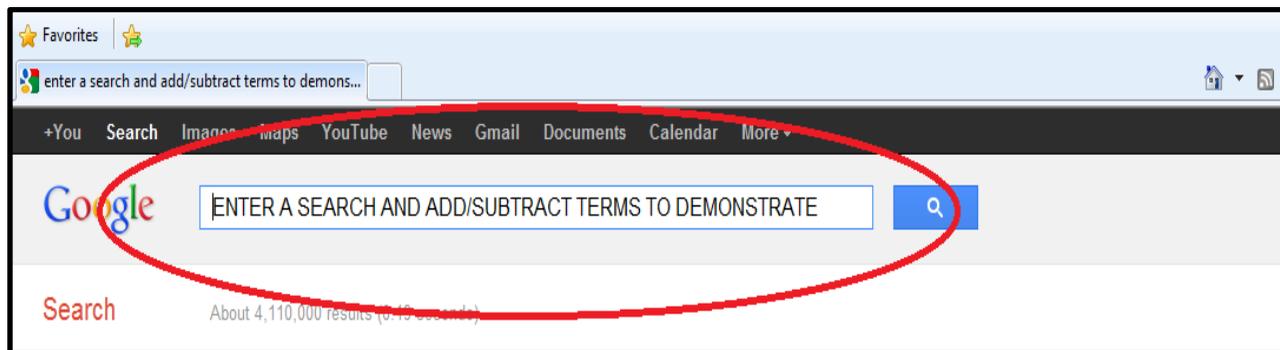
Related Searches

Search Box

Search Engine

Search Results

Tabbed Browsing



The BBRI Digital Literacy Internet Basics Curriculum

Basic Internet Skill

- Navigation
- Search
- **Communication**



Curricular Component

- Browser and Website Basics
- Google and Library Resources
- **Email**

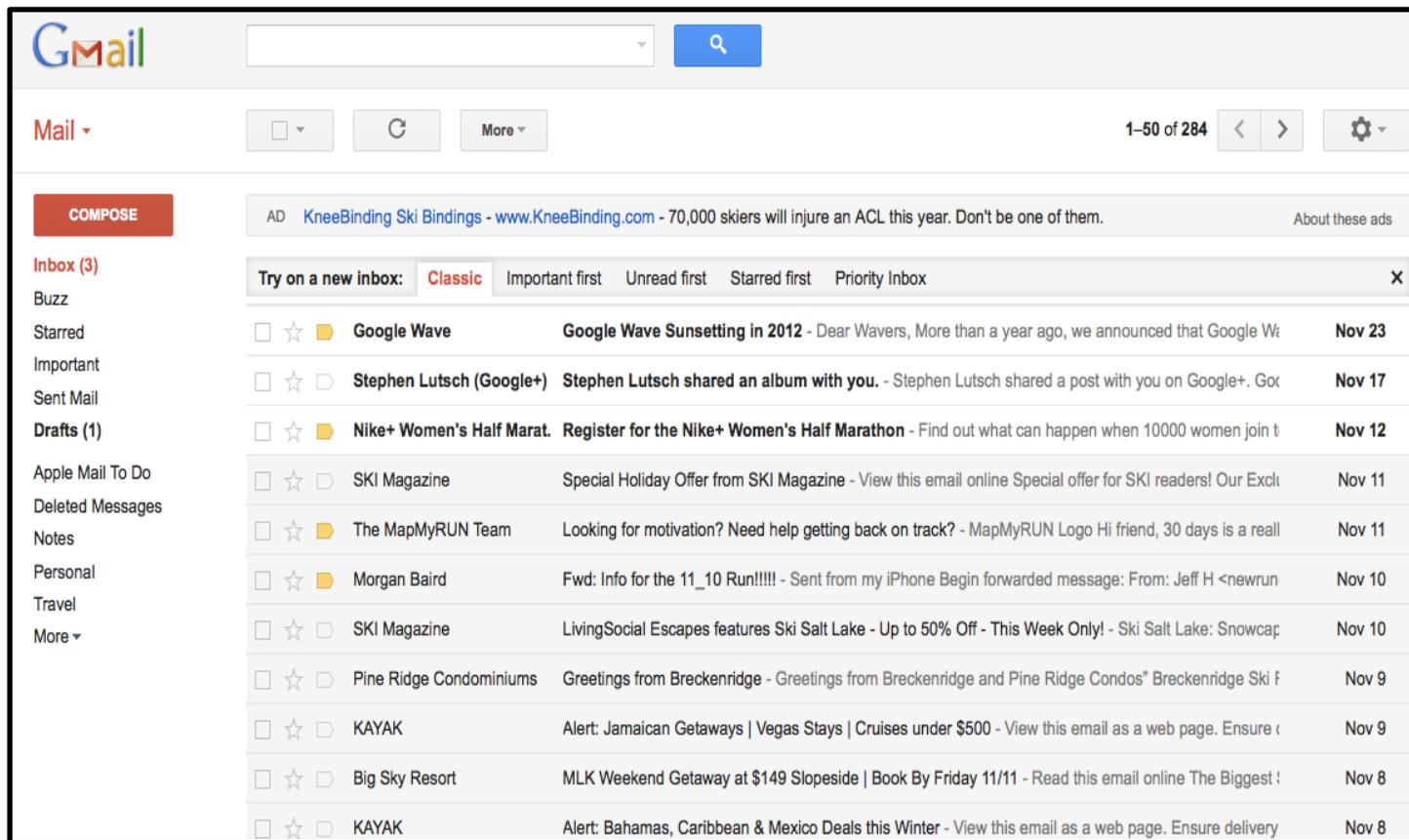


Module 3 – email Basics

(Skill = Communication)

Key Concepts and Vocabulary Terms

Archive
Compose
Email
Folders
Forward
Inbox
Login
Logout
Reply
Send
SPAM



The BBRI Digital Literacy Internet Basics Curriculum

Basic Internet Skill

- Navigation
- Search
- Communication
- **Protection**



Curricular Component

- Browser and Website Basics
- Google and Library Resources
- Email
- **Safety & Privacy Basics**



Module X – Online Safety & Privacy (Skill = Being Safe)

Key Concepts and Vocabulary Terms

Username

Password

Challenge Security Questions

Public Data vs. Private Data

https: vs. http:

Logoff

Phishing (Scamming)

Viruses

Worms

Trojans

Anti-Virus Software

Parental Controls

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Safety & Security Centre website. The main heading is "Safety & Security Centre" with the subtitle "Computer Security, Digital Privacy, and Online Safety". There is a search bar and navigation links for Home, Security, Privacy, Family Safety, and Resources. The page features several sections: "PC Security" with sub-links for Passwords, Shopping, Fraud, and Social networking; "I want to..." with options like "Get a security update, tool, or scan"; and a "Check your password—is it strong?" section. In this section, a "Password:" input field is highlighted with a red circle. Below it, a "Strength:" indicator shows "Not rated". A "Note" states that this is for personal reference only. A "What is a strong password?" section explains that password strength depends on character types, length, and dictionary inclusion. A link "Create strong passwords" is also highlighted with a red circle. The "About this password checker" section notes that Microsoft does not retain the entered password.



The BBRI Digital Literacy Internet Basics Curriculum

Basic Internet Skill

- Navigation
- Search
- Communication
- Protection
- **Explore**



Curricular Component

- Browser and Website Basics
- Google and Library Resources
- Email
- Safety & Privacy Basics
- **Capstone Class**



MAKE THE INTERNET MEANINGFUL: In the **Capstone Module**, the instructor reviews and builds on skills from the earlier modules, deciding the best way to help each student to achieve their original goals.

Based on the interests of the class,
the instructor will decide with the students if they:

- need more help on basic internet skills,
- are ready to explore more advanced features, or
- want to learn an Internet application not yet covered in class.



Ultimate Goal = Purposeful Learning

Students will complete this module by **applying the knowledge and skills** they have learned in an individualized project:

do something with the Internet that they really want/need to do.



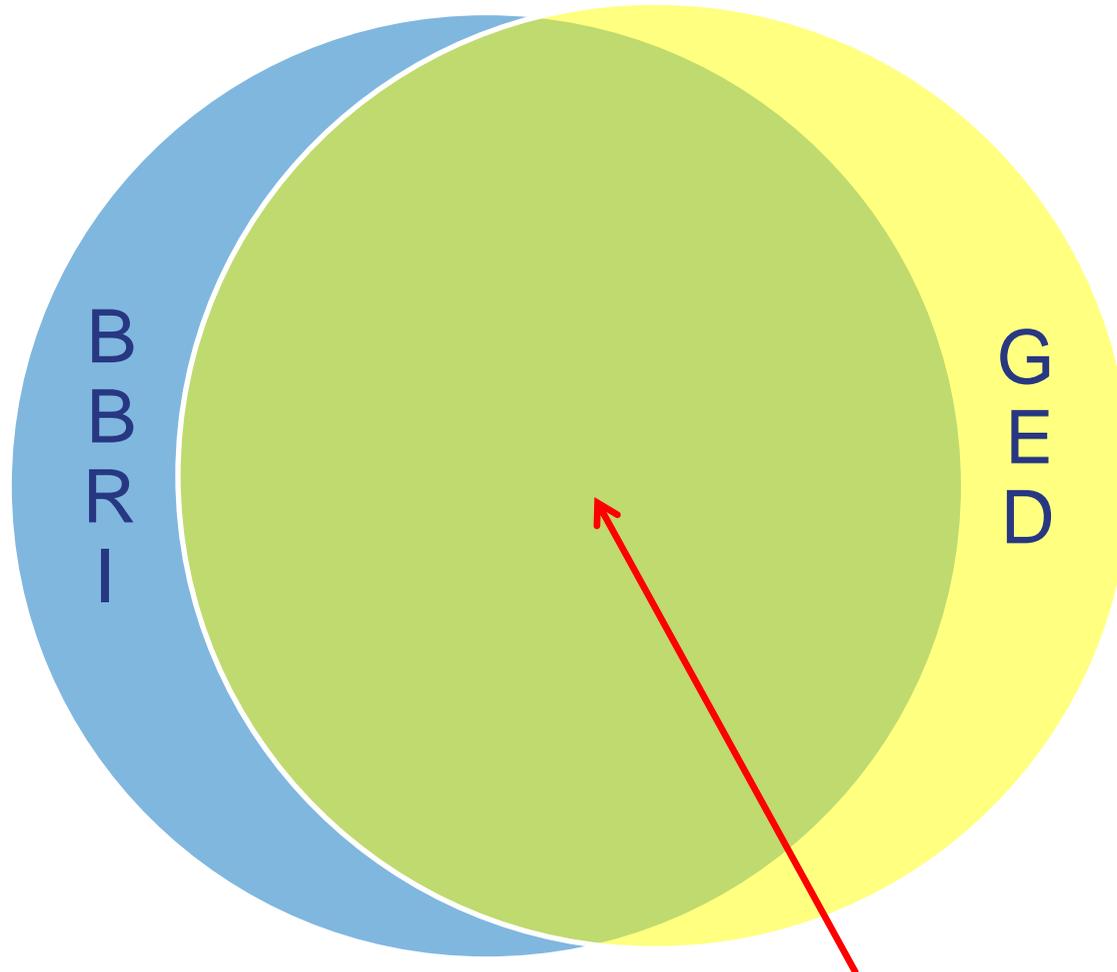
Rhode Islanders growing
through the

“Digital Literacy Tree”

... GED 2014 ...



Required Digital Literacy Skills



Approximately 80% Aligned



Call to Action!



You
are
here



Reflect
and explore
within your
organization

Expand your
organization's
capacity

Implement
across your
community



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