Using FILE as a building block for reflective information literacy practice

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FILE (Facilitating Information Literacy Education) was a course commissioned by London Health Libraries as part of its learner support programme. This course was developed in 2006 by Susie Andretta (senior lecturer in the School of Information Management at London Metropolitan University) as a post-graduate level module to address the Continuing Professional Development's needs of information practitioners who provide information literacy education in the health sector.

In this poster we aim to present our experience as participants of FILE and to demonstrate that overall this course improved our reflective practice skills by showing us how to employ diagnostic strategies to profile our users and evaluate our training sessions more effectively. Specific examples will illustrate how the supportive learning environment has inspired us to aim for higher achievements in communicating the information literacy message to a wide range of target audiences. The course increased our confidence as information literacy facilitators, enhanced our presentation skills and helped us to adopt more innovative teaching styles to fit with the learning styles of our users. Beyond FILE we have applied our learning individually and also by facilitating workshops as a group via CLIST (Clinical Librarians and Information Skills Trainers), which proved to be an invaluable collaborative activity.