



# Mapping Information Landscapes: New Methods for Exploring the Development and Teaching of Information Literacy

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## Description

*Mapping Information Landscapes* presents the first in-depth study of the educational implications of the idea of information literacy as 'the capacity to map and navigate an information landscape'. Written by a leading researcher in the field, it investigates how teachers and learners can use mapping in developing their ability to make informed judgements about information, in specific places and times.

Central to the argument is the notion that the geographical and information landscapes are indivisible, and the techniques we use to navigate each are essentially the same. The book presents a history of mapping as a means of representing the world, ranging from the work of medieval mapmakers to the 21st century. Concept and mind mapping are explored, and finally, the notion of discursive mapping: the dialogic process, regardless of whether a graphical map is an outcome.

The theoretical framework of the book weaves together the work of authors including Annemaree Lloyd, Christine Bruce, practice theorists such as Theodore Schatzki and the critical geography of David Harvey, an author whose work has not previously been applied to the study of information literacy.

The book concludes that keeping information landscapes sustainable and navigable requires attention to how equipment is used to map and organise those landscapes. How we collectively think about and solve problems in the present time inscribes maps and positions them as resources in whatever landscapes we will draw on in the future.

Information literacy educators, whether in libraries, other HE courses, high schools or the workplace, will benefit by learning about how mapping – implicitly and explicitly – can be used as a method of teaching IL. The book will also be useful reading for academics and researchers of information literacy and students of library and information science.

### Contents

1. Introduction: power, difference and information literacy 2. Previous work on information practice 3. IL education, phenomenography 4. The nature of power and difference 5. Difference and discursive mapping 6. Mapping in workplace learning: the *Bibliotek i Endring* (Changing Libraries) project 7. Mapping in university IL education. 8. Discursive mapping via online discussion activities 9. Conclusion...Towards a xenophilic IL education

### Author

**Andrew Whitworth** is Director of Teaching and Learning Strategy at the Manchester Institute of Education. He was previously a senior lecturer and Programme Director (and initiator) of the MA: Digital Technologies, Communication and Education at the University of Manchester. He was a keynote speaker at the 2017 European Conference on Information Literacy (ECIL2017) and is the author of *Information Obesity* (Chandos, 2009) and *Radical Information Literacy* (Chandos, 2014).