

1B—Decolonizing and Indigenizing #1

Teaching Indigenous Elders as Alternative Authority

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One of the frames from ACRL's "Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education" calls for students to navigate how "authority is constructed and contextual." Elders are authorities in Indigenous communities, but academic librarians who teach often privilege, to the exclusion of other authorities, the importance of the scholarly journal article. In interrogating scholarly resources, teaching authority beyond the scholarly article is essential to beginning to decolonize this practice. We will define elders' authority from the example of Red Crow Community College's Blackfoot Eminent Scholars, which points students to elders who belong to traditional societies and places their knowledge within context.