

FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY TO THE

Directorate of Information, Culture and Heritage

Generative AI · Critical Judgment · Information Literacy

A case study from the Université Catholique de Lille

Marie-Pierre WYNANDS

1875

LILLE

A UNIVERSITY OF TRANSMISSION

Information
Culture
Heritage

Four movements, one question

How can a university help its community remain intellectually autonomous when producing an answer has never been easier?

01

FROM LILLE

A historic university and a library already moving beyond access

02



THE SHIFT

Generative AI changes the information landscape

03



OUR RESPONSE

Information + Culture + Heritage as one educational mission

04



THE OUTCOME

From providing access to fostering judgment



OUR INSTITUTION

A university built around transmission

1875

Founded in Lille

150 years later, the same question remains:

How do we transmit knowledge in a changing world?



History is not a backdrop to our project — it is part of the argument

TODAY

43,000

students

23

training institutions

580+

partner universities

2nd International Week for Academic Libraries, HMU,
21st-25th of September 2026

The library was already changing

The move to the DICP did not begin with AI

It began with a library increasingly concerned not only with resources, but with skills, practices and intellectual autonomy.

COLLECTIONS

access



TRAINING

methods



RESEARCH SUPPORT

practices



MEDIATION

interpretation



SPACES

community

~35-person library team

One expanding educational mission

Access is no longer the hardest part



**Generative AI makes fluent answers abundant.
The scarce resource becomes critical judgment.**

What generative AI changes

- 01 The answer can come before the sources.
- 02 Fluency can imitate authority.
- 03 Provenance becomes harder to see.
- 04 Searching, reading and writing are reorganised.

GENERATIVE AI

**does not make
information literacy
obsolete.**

It makes it more necessary than ever.

Information literacy becomes intellectual autonomy

01

ASK

formulate

02

TRACE

provenance

03

VERIFY

cross-check

04

CONTEXTUALISE

situate

05

USE RESPONSIBLY

cite · disclose

06

JUDGE

trust · doubt

The final competence is the least technical — and perhaps the most important.

Why Information, Culture and Heritage — together?

JULY 2025

Creation of the DICP

Not three parallel departments. Three ways of helping a university community build, interpret and transmit knowledge.

INFORMATION

Find · evaluate · verify

methods & sources

CULTURE

Interpret · question · compare

perspectives & encounters

HERITAGE

Contextualise · preserve · transmit

depth & memory

Breaking down professional silos becomes part of the educational strategy.

Culture is not an ornament around knowledge



A YEAR TO EXPLORE INTELLIGENCES

What do we mean by “intelligence” — really?

Our 2026–2027 cultural programme deliberately moves beyond AI: human and artificial intelligence, the living world, collective action, care and vulnerability.

PODCASTS

EVENTS

CAHIERS

Culture creates the critical distance that technical training alone cannot provide.

From information literacy to AI literacy

AI can accelerate access and production. It cannot replace the work of interpretation.

Historical depth

material history of knowledge

Cultural plurality

other forms of interpretation

Critical distance

information is never context-free

01

Library & services

02

Research methods

03

Evaluating
information

04

Bibliography,
plagiarism & Zotero

05

Information
monitoring

06

COMING SOON

Generative AI

finding → evaluating → managing → interpreting → using AI critically

Ten recommendations for the responsible use of generative AI

Critical judgment · intellectual autonomy · responsible practices

A practical framework used to structure our approach

1

Treat AI as assistance — never as an intellectual authority or substitute for reasoning.

2

Do not confuse speed of production with quality of information.

3

Remember: generative AI predicts; it does not reason or make value judgments.

4

Social, cultural, political and economic biases can shape AI outputs.

5

Ask for sources and verify their accuracy and reliability.

6

Be able to explain what you have understood or produced with AI assistance.

7

Work regularly without AI to preserve autonomy, writing, judgment and well-being.

8

Do not provide personal, academic or sensitive data that could be stored or exploited.

9

Remember that generative AI has an environmental cost.

10

Systematic AI use may impoverish the production and circulation of new knowledge.

Turning the vision into an organisation

INFORMATION LITERACY

A dedicated unit and university-wide training

THIRD PLACES

More flexible, welcoming learning spaces

CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

Matières à penser + Hors-Champs

COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES

Better knowledge, preservation and visibility

The organisation is the infrastructure for a new educational and cultural mission.



ACCESS

EVALUATION

JUDGMENT

Information
Culture
Heritage

FROM PROVIDING ACCESS

**to fostering
judgment**

Because when producing an answer becomes easy,
the university must protect what remains difficult:

to question · to evaluate · to interpret

to think for ourselves.

Thank you!