

Strengthening Digital Literacy and News Writing Skills on Websites Through Collaborative Training for Students in Palangka Raya City

Penguatan Literasi Digital dan Keterampilan Penulisan Berita di Website Melalui Pelatihan Kolaboratif Bagi Mahasiswa di Kota Palangka Raya

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Abstract

The rapid development of digital technology has created a growing need for digital literacy and high-quality news writing skills among students. This community service program aims to enhance the digital literacy and news writing capabilities of students from IAIN Palangkaraya and Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya (UMP) through collaborative training. The activities include workshops on digital literacy, training in journalism-based news writing techniques, writing simulations, and mentoring for publishing news on the official university websites. This training is also designed to strengthen inter-university collaboration in managing and utilizing digital media as a platform for accurate and get high-quality information dissemination. The expected outcomes of this program include improved student skills in news writing, the creation of relevant digital content on university websites, and the establishment of synergy between educational institutions. Consequently, students are expected to actively contribute to fostering a productive digital literacy culture and supporting the dissemination of credible information within the community.



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KEYWORDS : Digital Literacy, Collaborative Training, Information Dissemination

Introduction

Strengthening digital literacy and news writing skills on websites is an important need in the digitalization era.¹ The development of information technology requires individuals to have digital literacy skills² to be able to access³, sorting⁴, understand⁵, maximize⁶, and utilize information effectively.⁷ In Atsilah's research, people, especially in rural areas, sort out information circulating on social media, whether the news they obtain is in accordance with the facts or is just hoax news.⁸ Therefore, collaborative training that focuses on digital literacy and news writing skills on websites is expected to be able to increase individual capacity in presenting and evaluating information.⁹

Digital literacy and news writing skills on websites are fundamental aspects in managing information in the digital era. Digital literacy is not

¹ Helena Anggraeni, Yayuk Fauziyah, and Eni Fariyatul Fahyuni, "Penguatan Blended Learning Berbasis Literasi Digital Dalam Menghadapi Era Revolusi Industri 4.0," *Jurnal Kependidikan Islam* 9, no. 2 (2019): 197, <http://ejournal.radenintan.ac.id/index.php/idarohe-ISSN:2580-2453https://doi.org/10.24042/alidarah.v9i2.5168>.

² Anindyah Lyra Syashi Kinanti et al., "Kemampuan Literasi Digital Dalam Pembelajaran Teks Eksplanasi Siswa Di SD Negeri 4 Made," *Jurnal Riset Madrasah Ibtidaiyah (JURMIA)* 4, no. 1 (2024): 174, <https://doi.org/10.32665/jurmia.v4i1.2714>.

³ Etik Anjar Fitriarti, "Urgensi Literasi Digital Dalam Menangkal Hoax Informasi Kesehatan Di Era Digital," *Metacommunication: Journal of Communication Studies* 4, no. 2 (2019): 243, <https://doi.org/10.20527/mc.v4i2.6929>.

⁴ Ida Safitri, Sufyarma Marsidin, and Ahmad Subandi, "Analisis Kebijakan Terkait Kebijakan Literasi Digital Di Sekolah Dasar," *Edukatif: Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan* 2, no. 2 (2020): 179, <https://doi.org/10.31004/edukatif.v2i2.123>.

⁵ Haickal Attallah Naufal, "Literasi Digital," *Perspektif* 1, no. 2 (2021): 197, <https://doi.org/10.53947/perspektif.v1i2.32>.

⁶ Eka Pranajaya Teddy Setiawan, Dwinanto Priyo Suseyto, "Edukasi Literasi Digital : Pendampingan Transformasi Digital Pelaku Umkm Sukabumi Pakidulan," *Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat* 1, no. 7 (2021): 1601, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10941665.2020.1859057>.

⁷ Astrid Kusuma Rahardaya and Irwansyah Irwansyah, "Studi Literatur Penggunaan Media Sosial Tiktok Sebagai Sarana Literasi Digital Pada Masa Pandemi Covid-19," *Jurnal Teknologi Dan Sistem Informasi Bisnis* 3, no. 2 (2021): 314, <https://doi.org/10.47233/jtekis.v3i2.248>.

⁸ Mas Atsilah Rahmah Tamhidah, "Pengaruh Media Sosial Terhadap Penyebaran Informasi Palsu Dan Kejahatan Siber," *Innovative: Journal Of Social Science Research* 3, no. 6 (2023): 9133, <https://j-innovative.org/index.php/Innovative/article/view/7197/5176>.

⁹ Zelvi Gustiana and Welnof Satria, "Meningkatkan Akses Dan Kemampuan Literasi Digital Di Era Informasi," *Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat* 3, no. 1 (2024): 24, <https://doi.org/10.70340/japamas.v3i1.126>.

only related to technical skills¹⁰, but also critical understanding in selecting credible information.¹¹ According to Gilster, digital literacy is defined as a set of attitudes and understandings in handling and communicating information and knowledge effectively in various media and formats.¹² Haryadi and Zikri's research also confirms that increasing digital literacy contributes significantly to suppressing the spread of hoax news in online media.¹³ Therefore, collaborative training based on digital literacy and news writing on websites is an effective approach to improve individual skills in producing quality information.

Digital literacy and news writing skills are essential competencies for students in facing the digital era.¹⁴ Strengthening digital literacy plays an important role in helping students utilize information technology effectively¹⁵, including in writing website-based news. According to research by Nurhaeni et al., writing news, especially opinion-based news, is the desire of many people because it provides space to convey views related to current issues.¹⁶ However, students often face obstacles in writing news, such as lack of understanding about news writing, journalistic language selection, and information verification. Collaborative training involving direct practice and interactive discussions has proven effective in improving news writing skills. Based on this, this paper aims to examine how collaborative training can strengthen digital literacy and news writing skills on websites for students in Palangka Raya City, as well as provide an overview of the effectiveness of this method in improving the quality of news writing.

¹⁰ Ervina Nurjanah, Agus Rusmana, and Andri Yanto, "Hubungan Literasi Digital Dengan Penggunaan E-Resources," *Lentera Pustaka* 3, no. 2 (2017): 131.

¹¹ Raries Ernie Cynthia and Hotmaulina Sihotang, "Melangkah Bersama Di Era Digital : Pentingnya Literasi Digital Untuk Meningkatkan Kemampuan Berpikir Kritis Dan Kemampuan Pemecahan Masalah Peserta Didik," *Jurnal Pendidikan Tambusai* 7 (2023): 31712.

¹² Shely Herliani R. Hendaryan, Taufik Hidayat, "Pelaksanaan Literasi Digital Dalam Meningkatkan Kemampuan Literasi Siswa," *Jurnal Literasi* 6, no. 1 (2022): 143, http://scioteca.caf.com/bitstream/handle/123456789/1091/RED2017-Eng-8ene.pdf?sequence=12&isAllowed=y%0Ahttp://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.regsciurbeco.2008.06.005%0Ahttps://www.researchgate.net/publication/305320484_SISTEM_PEMBETU NGAN_TERPUSAT_STRATEGI_MELESTARI.

¹³ Haryadi Mujianto and Zikri Fachrul Nurhadi, "Dampak Literasi Media Berbasis Digital Terhadap Perilaku Anti Penyebaran Hoaks," *Alhadharah: Jurnal Ilmu Dakwah* 21, no. 1 (2022): 42, <https://doi.org/10.18592/alhadharah.v21i1.6419>.

¹⁴ Alfiatul Fahkiroh, Dwi Putri Fatmawati, and Sari Risqi Amalia, "Studi Literatur: Literasi Digital Sebagai Dasar Dari Kompetensi Pedagogik Pada Calon Guru Matematika Di Era Society 5.0," *ProSANDIKA UNIKAL (Prosiding Seminar Nasional Pendidikan Matematika Universitas Pekalongan)* 4, no. 1 (2023): 529, <https://proceeding.unikal.ac.id/index.php/sandika/article/view/1246>.

¹⁵ Eny Supriati and Tiara Widya, "Optimalisasi Peran Perpustakaan Dalam Implementasi Literasi Digital Di Perguruan Tinggi," *Jurnal Kepustakawan Indonesia* 1, no. 1 (2025): 2.

¹⁶ Nugraheni Arumsari et al., "Menjadi Jurnalis Milenial Di Era Digital," *Harmony: Jurnal Pembelajaran IPS Dan PKN* 7, no. 2 (2022): 107, <https://doi.org/10.15294/harmony.v7i2.60100>.

Methods

This research was conducted by the Faculty of Islamic Economics and Business (FEBI), this training aims to hone writing skills in the context of print and electronic media. This event was held in the 3rd floor library hall of IAIN Palangkaraya on Friday, March 8, 2024. The speaker at this event was Dr. H. Junaidi, SH, M.I.Kom, who is the Editor-in-Chief of GemaKalteng.co.id as well as an expert in the field of communication who has extensive experience in the media industry. The method used in this study is Service Learning (SL).¹⁷ The stages carried out in this service include: Planning¹⁸, Implementation, and Evaluation/Reflection.¹⁹

Results and Discussion

I. Planning

The planning stage begins with identifying the needs of participants related to strengthening digital literacy and news writing skills. This identification is carried out through an initial survey and short interviews with students who are interested in journalism. The results of this identification become the basis for compiling a training concept that includes materials on digital literacy workshops, news writing technique training, writing simulations, and publishing news on the university's official website. In addition, the implementing team also prepares supporting devices, such as computer devices, internet networks, and access to website platforms for direct practice. After the training concept is prepared, the planning stage continues with compiling a schedule of activities and selecting speakers who have competence in journalism and digital literacy. The speakers presented consist of experienced media practitioners and academics. This scheduling is carried out systematically so that the training material can be delivered effectively and continuously.

II. Implementation

The implementation stage began with the opening of the event attended by participants and speakers. The event was opened by the

¹⁷ Mawar Ardiansyah et al., "Membangun Kesadaran Mata Uang Nasional: Sosialisasi Rupiah Di SMPN 4 Satap Jagoi Babang," *Jurnal Pengabdian Multidisiplin* 3, no. 3 (2023): 2, <https://doi.org/10.51214/00202303641000>.

¹⁸ Ahmadi Hasan et al., "It-Based Training of Trainer (Tot) Zakat and Wakf Management Training/ Application for Zakat Collection Units (Upz) City of Palangka Raya," *AMALA Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat* 1, no. 1 (2022): 3, <https://doi.org/10.23971/amala.vii1.11>.

¹⁹ Jefry Tarantang et al., "Edukasi Pembelajaran Daring Di Masa Pandemi Covid-19 Bagi Orang Tua Di Kelurahan Pahandut Seberang Kecamatan Pahandut Kota Palangka Raya," *Parta: Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat* 3, no. 1 (2022): 27, <https://doi.org/10.38043/parta.v3i1.3564>.

Vice Dean II of FEBI, Mrs. Dr. Muzalifah, M.Si, who gave a warm welcome to all participants. Mrs. Dr. Muzalifah, M.Si emphasized the importance of writing skills in the rapidly developing world of journalism, and hoped that this training would provide great benefits for all participants. In the first session, participants were given material on digital literacy which included an introduction to website platforms, the use of social media as a means of disseminating news, and how to find and verify information. Dr. Junaidi provided practical guidance on effective news article writing techniques, both for print and electronic media. He also shared tips on how to attract the attention of readers or viewers and maintain balance and objectivity in conveying information.



Figure 1. Digital Literacy Strengthening Training and News Writing Skills



Figure 2. Participants in the Digital Literacy and News Writing Skills Strengthening Training

Next, participants are given materials consisting of digital literacy workshops, news writing technique training, writing simulations, and news upload assistance on the university's official website. This practice aims to train participants in applying the theories they have learned.

III. Evaluation/Reflection

The evaluation and reflection stage is carried out at the end of the training to assess the learning outcomes of the participants. The evaluation is carried out through news writing assignments that must be completed by each participant based on the material that has been presented. The results of the assignment are then reviewed by the resource person and the implementation team to provide constructive feedback to the participants. In addition, the reflection session also involves an open discussion that allows participants to convey experiences, obstacles, and new insights gained during the training. This reflection aims to strengthen participants' understanding and improve the quality of news writing in the future.

Conclusion

This collaborative training based on Service Learning has proven effective in improving digital literacy and news writing skills of students at IAIN Palangka Raya and Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya (UMP). Through workshops, writing simulations, and news publication assistance on university websites, participants gain an understanding of journalistic writing techniques and the use of digital media. The results of the training show an increase in students' ability to write quality news and strengthen synergy between educational institutions. This program is expected to encourage students to actively contribute to disseminating credible information and fostering a culture of digital literacy in society.

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