

SLIS 4000/5000 Information and Knowledge Professions Section 009
Fall 2013
Course Syllabus

Instructor

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Office Hours

Students are welcome to make an appointment with the instructor at any time to discuss course related questions, issues, or concerns. Please send an email to your instructor to schedule a meeting.

Course Format

This is a blended course; students should attend Web Institute and complete the remainder of the course online. Nine learning modules are used to organize and deliver online course materials to students. The class has several online synchronous sessions via Blackboard Collaborate throughout the semester; students' attendance is not required but highly recommended.

Course Description

3 hours. History, roles and scope of the information and knowledge professions. Basic concepts and issues including impact of information technology on the individual, intellectual freedom, privacy and diversity. Legal and ethical aspects of managing information and knowledge organizations. Course activities emphasizing team building and leadership skills.

Course Objectives

- Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Develop basic understanding of the scope of the information professions
- Acquire a knowledge of the history of information and library sciences
- Examine ethics, values, norms, and foundational principles of the LIS profession
- Investigate current and emerging issues in information and library sciences and their impact on information professions
- Understand the role and attributes of an effective LIS professional
- Exhibit knowledge of the impact of technology on individuals, society and the information profession

Course Materials

- American Psychological Association (2010). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Each weekly module has required readings that are listed in the "Readings" section of the modules. Use of the UNT library electronic resources may be necessary because some readings can be retrieved electronically.

Assignments and Grading

Module Assignments (500 points)

Each module will have article critique and discussion assignment. Each module will have a single deadline for completion of all required assignments because it runs through a week.

- Article critiques (40 points * seven modules = 280 points): Students are required to post at least 350 words critique of one of the critique readings for each module.
- Discussions (25 points * seven modules = 175 points): Each module includes one discussion question given by the instructor for class discussion. Students will post their responses to the question (20 points) and reply to at least one response made by other students (5 points).
- Module3 Group Presentation (45 points): Further details will be explained at the Web Institute. See module3 on course Blackboard site.

Please note that module9 is an optional assignment that can be completed to improve the student's final grade.

Leadership Project (50 points)

Each student should participate in one of the following leadership activities:

- Join at least one LIS professional organization and take a leadership activity
- Join at least one listserv that discusses issues related to one area of library and information science or a group/community through a social networking site (e.g., Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Xing, Orkut, etc.) that is related to the library and information science profession and participate in their discussion/activity
- Join a committee or become a committee chair in a LIS professional organization and take a leadership activity
- Take a leadership role in a student chapter of an information organization (includes UNT-LISSA)

Students are encouraged to identify additional methods of enhance their leadership activities. Students should have their leadership activities approved by the instructor. For the instructor's approval, students should post a summary of their leadership proposal to the discussion board. When the leadership activity is completed, students should post a summary of their leadership activity experience.

Mid-term paper (200 points) and final-term paper (250 points)

Students will write a mid-term paper and a final term paper on an in-depth examination of a topic touched upon in this class. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Electronic media and copyright issues
- Digital divide in libraries
- Censorship and public libraries
- Library patron privacy

- Mobile technology for public libraries
- Leadership issue in academic libraries, etc.

The mid-term paper is an annotated bibliography. The paper should have a title page which includes the title of the paper, your name, and your affiliation. List annotations alphabetically by author's last name, using APA style bibliographic format; each annotation should be at least 200 words. The annotated bibliography should include at least 8 sources relevant to the topic the student has chosen. A minimum of five of the sources must be from peer-reviewed scholarly journals.

The final term paper is a literature review. The paper should have a title page which includes the title of the paper, your name, and your affiliation. Begin with an introduction, explaining the scope of your topic to familiarize your audience with the focus of your paper. Write a literature review of the 5 best sources from your annotated bibliography. Then state your discussion and conclusion providing a critical evaluation of published works you reviewed, synthesizing your points, and providing a final perspective on your topic. Your reference list should appear at the end of your paper. Please follow APA style for your in-text citations and references. The length of your final term paper should be at least 2500 words (including references).

See the specific descriptions for annotated bibliography and literature review on course Blackboard site.

APA Style

When doing the assignment, it is important to provide details of all the sources of information that students have used to prepare their work. All written assignments should follow APA style to ensure that all sources are cited completely, correctly, and with consistency. The purpose of APA style is to 1) give credit to the author whose ideas or research you have used, 2) provide the exact location for sources of information used in the text of your paper, and 3) enable your reader to verify information you have provided or to explore your topic in greater depth. Consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition.

The UNT scale for grading is as follows:

A = 900-1000
 B = 800-890
 C = 700-790
 D = 600-690
 F = 590 and below

Incomplete Grade

An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non punitive grade given only during the last one fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. The student must arrange with the instructor to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements. Please refer to <http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/academic-record-incomplete.html> for more information.

Class Policy

Late Assignment

All students are expected to submit their module assignments and other assignments by the due date. This prevents students from getting too far behind in the course and allows the instructor to assign grades in a consistent manner. When students encounter an unanticipated and uncontrollable life event that may prevent them from meeting an assignment deadline, they should contact the instructor immediately.

Copyright

Some or all of the materials on the course site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies.

Schedule

Week	Due
August 16 - August 17	Web Institute
September 1 - September 8	Module 1
September 9 - September 15	Module 2
September 16 - September 29	Module 3 (Group Presentation)
September 30 - October 6	Module 4
October 7 - October 13	Module 5
October 18 (Friday)	Leadership Project Proposal
October 25 (Friday)	Mid-term Paper
October 28 - November 3	Module 6
November 4 - November 10	Module 7
November 11 - November 17	Module 8
November 18 - November 24	Module 9 (Optional)
November 25 - December 1	Thanksgiving Break
December 6 (Friday)	Final-term Paper and Leadership Project Summary

Academic Integrity

UNT has established a new policy on academic integrity, which can be found at the Provost Office website: <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>

The two categories of most relevance to LIS are cheating and plagiarism, which you can find the definitions from Policies of the University of North Texas 18.1.16

Student Standards of Academic Integrity http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_AffairsAcademic_Integrity.pdf

See also Department of Library Information Science's "Academic Misconduct Policy"

Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Statement

The Department of Library and Information Sciences, University of North Texas is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the Department will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline.

Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed.

Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

Acknowledgements

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