SLIS 4600. Basic Introduction to Information Access and Retrieval
SLIS 5600. Information Access and Knowledge Inquiry

Semester: SPRING 2014

Description

3 hours. Basic principles and techniques of information retrieval and access services. Survey of research in information seeking behavior and user interaction. Introduction to systems of access, search and retrieval skills, and collection management. Study of evaluation methods for all formats of resources, services, and user satisfaction.

Instructors

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Objectives/Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will gain an understanding of information access and retrieval through readings, lectures, assignments, and activities.

- Exhibit knowledge of the foundations, philosophy, and ethics of information services.
- Understand issues concerning users and diversity.
- Understand the attributes of information behavior.
- Demonstrate knowledge of reference information resources.
- Understand basic principles of information retrieval.
- Demonstrate search and retrieval skills.
- Conduct a reference interview.
- Acquire knowledge of the effective practices in information and instructional services.
- Understand the elements of collection management of information resources.
- Understand management responsibilities.
- Understand the purpose of evaluation and be able to evaluate information access services.
- Understand and evaluate information technologies.

Requirements

- Textbook: Bopp, R. E., & Smith, L.C., eds. (2011). *Reference and information services: An Introduction.* 4th ed. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.

- Assignments:
    o Reading discussion questions based on textbook chapters and articles available electronically through the UNT Libraries
    o Information hunts and evaluations completed using a variety of print and electronic information resources
    o Final project consisting of the development of an instructional information service
    o Class participation, including attendance at face-to-face meetings and online chats

- Exams: Midterm exam

Schedule

Week	Topic	Textbook Chapters
1	Introduction to the Course	None
2	Team Profiles Due	None
3	Information in Society Information Resources and Evaluation Resources: Guides	Bopp & Smith, Chapters 1, 2, & 13
4	Information Services, Information Professionals, and the Internet Resources: Dictionaries & Encyclopedias	Bopp & Smith, Chapter 6, 11, 17, &18
5	Modeling Information Needs Resources: Bibliographies & Catalogs and Indexes & Abstracts Reading Set I Due Final Project Topic Due	Bopp & Smith, Chapters 20 & 21
6	Users and Systems Information Hunts & Evaluations I Due	Bopp & Smith, Chapter 12
7	Introduction to Databases Resources: Search Engines	Bopp & Smith, Chapters 5 & 6
8	Resources: Serials and Directories Reading Set II Due	Bopp & Smith, Chapters 14 & 20
9	Spring Break	
10	Interfacing with the User Resource: Almanacs & Yearbooks and Handbooks & Manuals Information Hunts & Evaluations II Due	Bopp & Smith, Chapter 3 & 15
11	Interfacing with the User (continued)	None

12	Midterm Exam	
13	User Instruction Resources: Biographical Sources and Geographical Source Reading Set III Due	Bopp & Smith, Chapters 8, 16, & 19
14	Resource Management Administration and Management Resources: Government Documents and Digital Library Collections	Bopp & Smith, Chapters 7, 9, 10, & 22
15	Administration and Management (continued) Information Hunts & Evaluations III Due Final Projects Due	None
16	Digital Library Collections Reading Set IV Due Final Project Reactions Due	None

Note: University policies, including ADA, course management policies, and technology requirements are included in the syllabus provided to the students.