

Spring 2009-2010 Course Descriptions

School of Library and Information Studies

October 15, 2009 – Subject to Change

LIS 451: Foundations of Reference Service

Use of databases for library and other information services; development and use of search protocols and search strategies; information resource evaluation; understanding information retrieval systems; comparison and contrast of systems and strategies for World Wide Web searching.

LIS 551: Organization of Information

Introduction to the core principles, standards, systems, practices, and tools of information organization. Covers bibliographic control and metadata creation, including bibliographic description, subject analysis, vocabulary control, metadata schemas, and markup languages.

LIS 616: Records Management

An introduction to the role of records in society and to the principles and practices involved in managing records (both paper and electronic) in private and public sector organizations.

LIS 617: Health Information Systems

Provides grounding in core concepts of health information systems. Major applications include clinical information systems, language and standards, decision support, image technology and digital libraries. Evaluation of IE tools and perspectives designed to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of health information.

LIS 619: Music Research Methods and Materials

(Crosslisted with Music) Historical and contemporary bibliography resources for musical scholarship; general reference tools of scholarly work and specific musicological works.

LIS 620: Field Project in Library and Information Agencies

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain professional experience in an information agency. The course consists of a minimum of 120 hours in the agency along with seminar meetings to discuss the placements and the application of professional theory to the work place. You will work with the supervising librarian at your agency to determine your

work responsibilities and schedule; your schedule must be flexible enough to accommodate possible weekday, weeknight and weekend hours.

Enrollment and credits:

- Students in school libraries will enroll in C&I 620, not LIS 620, and must work in two schools (140 hours in one placement, 70 in another) for a total of 210 hours and 3 credits.
- All other students will enroll in LIS 620 and spend 120 hours at the host agency for a total of 3 credits.

To receive your placement:

- PALS students: Complete the form found at <http://www.slis.wisc.edu/academics/PALS/PracticumStudentForm.pdf>
- On-campus students: See the “LIS 620: Field Project in Library and Information Agencies” section of this website: http://www.slis.wisc.edu/academics/administrative_forms/index.html First, review the “Directory of Placements”. Next, complete the “Placement Request Form” for on-campus students. Finally, submit your resume and the Placement Request Form to the instructor, Dr. Allison G. Kaplan (agkaplan@wisc.edu), who will facilitate the placement.

LIS 629: Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults (online)

This course provides students with an opportunity to explore the literary, socio-political, and pedagogical issues surrounding a body of literature that can be labeled “multicultural” and that is written for children and young adults. Students learn about the development of this distinctive body of literature, including seminal authors, new voices, and the book reviewing sources and organizations that help shape the field. They apply reader response theories to a close examination of specific texts and consider criteria for selecting books to be used in libraries and classrooms. In addition, students develop and practice skills in writing annotations and critical essays, creating bibliographies, and discussing books in an online environment.

LIS 635: Reference and Information Service

LIS 635 focuses on the principles, processes, and practices in selected aspects of reference and information services in all types of libraries. Upon completion of the course, students will have gained knowledge of current concepts, problems, trends, and issues in this aspect of professional librarianship. The major assignment for the semester involves an oral presentation to the class based on a research paper or 40-hour practicum experience.

LIS 640: Topic: Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums

This course provides an overview of, and practical experience with, the history, development, and current issues facing tribal libraries, archives, and museums, with an emphasis on Wisconsin tribal cultural institutions. The course is structured around a combination of classroom discussions and lectures, as well as onsite visits to tribal cultural institutions, and attendance of local events relevant to this course.

Upon completion of the course, students will:

- (1) understand the landscape of the tribal knowledge societies;
- (2) be aware of legal, social, cultural, political, economic issues affecting participation of Indian tribes in the knowledge society;
- (3) appreciate challenges faced by Wisconsin tribal cultural institutions;
- (4) gain practical experience interacting with tribal cultural institutions in Wisconsin.

LIS 641: The School Library Media Center (online)

This course focuses on management and instructional issues in school library media centers. Topics covered will include the instructional role of the library media specialist, state and national guidelines for library media and technology programs, collaboration in the schools, the school library media specialist as education advocate, and professional leadership.

LIS 644: Digital Tools, Trends and Debates (online)

Taught online for the first time this spring.

Overview of information and communication technologies, digital media, and standards in relationship to information agencies within the context of current societal controversies.

The course goal is to provide students with:

Broad awareness of digital technologies in use in libraries and other information agencies.
Ability to evaluate, select, and work with appropriate digital technologies in a library context.

Awareness of the social forces that create and shape the use of digital technologies, ensuing controversies that can arise, and the complex relationship between digital technologies and the future of information agencies.

Self-sufficiency in continual acquisition of technical knowledge.

LIS 645: Intellectual Freedom and Libraries (online)

An examination of the current trends and topics in intellectual freedom related to librarianship and of the historical and legal background of censorship in libraries.

LIS 651: Cataloging and Classification

This course introduces different approaches and systems currently used for organizing library materials. Through lectures, discussions and exercises, students will acquire practical knowledge of rules, standards, and tools used for bibliographic description and control, classification, and subject/content access.

Upon completion of the course, students will:

- (1) demonstrate an understanding of basic concepts and principles of bibliographic control;
- (2) recognize different approaches to cataloging and classification, and selected tools and resources;
- (3) utilize key resources properly for cataloging and classifying book-like items (including AACR2r, ISBD, MARC, DDC, LCC, LCSH);
- (4) demonstrate an understanding of the descriptive/subject cataloging and classification, and appreciate their roles and importance in organizing and retrieving information.

LIS 653: Government Information Sources (online)

Instructor: Louise Robbins

Web-based course only.

Through this course you will become familiar with the scope of information generated by federal, state, local, and international governments. The emphasis will be on federal information processes and products. You will gain an understanding of the laws and policies affecting the production and dissemination of government information. You will study the methods and challenges associated with the distribution and acquisition of government information sources, particularly the Federal Depository Library System. You will become familiar with the information generated by the legislative, executive and judicial processes and the methods of retrieving this information to meet the needs of diverse client groups. You will gain an understanding of how forms of government information is rapidly evolving and the many challenges facing librarians in maintaining open access to government information.

While I have not yet decided on all the assignments, students are likely to have three-four small assignments and one major assignment (with the possibility of a choice between two options.)

LIS 654: Management of Information Agencies (online)

Survey of concepts and skills necessary to perform in an information services organization. Service needs assessment, goal and objective setting, staffing, budgeting and evaluation.

LIS 655: Collection Management (online)

The study of collection management in all types of libraries and information centers. Includes analysis of information needs, criteria for selection, sources for reviews, collection use evaluation,

weeding, preservation, and contemporary changes in access and ownership. This course will be taught online in Spring 2010.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe the theoretical and practical issues associated with the management of library collections
- Identify the challenges of collection management facing information professionals in various types of libraries and information agencies
- Evaluate issues regarding access vs. ownership information resources
- Create and evaluate collection policies

LIS 661: Information Ethics and Policy

This spring's policy course will engage with contemporary information policy debates related to copyright and information licensing, privacy and network neutrality to as a means of exploring ethical theories and theorizing related to information and information access.

LIS 710: Research Methods for Library and Information Science (online)

Introduction to the principles, approaches, and methods of LIS research. Covers the knowledge and skills required to conduct and analyze research, including topics on methodology, data collection, and data analysis. Guided practice in the development and implementation of research study.

LIS 810: History of Readers and Reading

Although 710 Research Methods is officially a prerequisite for 810, it is not a requirement for the topic History of Readers and Reading. Classes are based on discussion rather than lecture. As the catalog description states, the course is a "Seminar in the social nature of reading practices in America from Colonial times to the present; theories and contexts of reading; reading communities; dimensions of gender, age, class, religion, race and ethnicity; examples of recent scholarship; use of primary sources."

The course focuses on theories and methods of researching the history of reading practices, engages through its seminar format in critical analysis of recent scholarship on reading in America, and gives students the opportunity to carry out a small-scale research project using primary sources.

LIS 826: Field Project in Library and Information Literacy Instruction (LILI)

826 is a field project partnership between SLIS and campus libraries participating in the coordinated Library & Information Literacy Instruction (LILI) program at UW-Madison. The 120 hour practicum component of the course has three parts: teaching a drop-in workshop (10-12 hours); observing and assisting with workshop sessions for undergraduate Communication A required courses (15-20 hours); extensive work with instruction projects at a home site library (80-90 hours).

In addition, there are seminar meetings with a variety of activities related to learning theory, pedagogy/andragogy, lesson planning, assessment, and the online tutorial software, Captivate, which you will use for some of your projects. You must be able to keep chunks of Monday, Wednesday, Friday (two of these) flexible for the Comm A classes (heaviest week 3-10); the schedule will be set when the LILI Office has all the session requests—usually by end of week 2 of the semester. Also—we will meet for an hour the week before classes start.

LIS 847: Topic: Consumer Health (online)

Instructor: Catherine Smith

This 3-credit asynchronous distance course will focus on the special domain of consumer health information services; consumer health materials in diverse formats; and users of consumer health services and materials.

The course covers the identification of appropriate and accurate resources for consumer health and family education; the policy issues that arise when providing consumer and family health information in different settings; the role of the public media in disseminating information; and information and referral services to and from healthcare organizations, community agencies, and public libraries. This course includes an optional 40-hour collection development practicum experience specific to consumer health.

Among the "special populations" whose health-related information needs will be discussed are persons living with AIDS/HIV disease, children, those with chronic diseases, persons of color, the disabled, the dying, the elderly, those of limited literacy, gay/lesbian/bisexual people, the homeless, those with mental illnesses, pet owners, the poor, prisoners, refugees, teens, women, and men—in other words, virtually everyone who encounters the American healthcare system. The role of family members, friends, and caregivers as health information seekers will also be discussed.

This course is appropriate for future or current information professionals in diverse places: those interested in medical and public libraries, healthcare organizations, community agencies, middle and high school library media centers, academic libraries serving students intending careers in the health or allied health professions, and—last but not least—people who want to build better websites, search engines, or information systems in all of the above domains of practice.

This is an extremely customizable course based on students' interests, expectations, and professional or pre-professional needs. If you have particular goals in mind that revolve around consumer health information, I encourage you to contact me and see how the course can best help you meet those goals.

LIS 847: Topic: Legal Reference

Legal Reference Services introduces students to the specialized nature of legal resources, emphasizing the development and use of search strategies using traditional legal materials and databases such as LexisNexis and Westlaw, as well as other subject-based online legal reference

tools. This course is team taught by the Reference staff at the UW Law Library. Course material and classroom communications will be posted on the Moodle course management system.

LIS 861: Information Architecture

This course covers how traditional library science concepts such as the organization of information and user services apply to web design, and examines the basics of usability, navigation, web evaluation, and ongoing web information system management.

LIS 875: Topic: Geographic Information Systems

Introduction to Geographic Information System (GIS), an information system for collecting, managing, analyzing, and displaying geospatial data. Covers the core principles, technology, and techniques of GIS with a special focus on its applications in libraries and information agencies. Provides project-based experience in using GIS software and creating geographical databases and maps. Technical prerequisite: Basic knowledge of database and HTML.

LIS 931: Seminar in Information Policy, Management, and Institutions

Meets with LIS 661.

LIS 976: Special Problems in Archives-Manuscripts Administration

A research seminar. Contemporary problems in archives administration, with special types of archival institutions and special classes of archival material.

LIS 977: Practicum in Archives-Manuscripts Administration

Practical training in the collecting and accessioning, arrangement, describing and servicing of archives and manuscript holdings in the Division of Archives and Manuscripts of the State Historical Society under the direct supervision of the chief archivist or a member of the professional staff.