Instructor
NAME: Threasa L. Wesley
E-MAIL : Wesley@nku.edu
PHONE: (859) 572-5721
PREFERRED METHOD OF CONTACT:
  • Course Q & A Discussion Board
  • Email with the subject line LIS 622

Office Hours:
Email instructor for appointment. I will typically respond to emails and Q & A postings within 1 weekday.

Class Information
  • Online Synchronous Class
    Class materials will be available in an online Blackboard site. Many of the reference tools necessary to complete course work will be available online (either free on the web or through UK’s Library collections.) However, it will be necessary for students to utilize print sources in an academic library or very large public library as well.

    Class discussions will take place through Discussion Boards in this site. Optional online chat sessions may be offered, particularly in response to a class-wide interest. There will not be any required F2F class meetings.

    Announcements in Blackboard as well as group and personal emails will be utilized by the instructor to communicate feedback to students.

  • Final Projects due Wednesday, April 26.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description
This course is an advanced study of information resources in the social science disciplines and will build upon the introductory experiences of LIS 601 in the examination of core information sources and services.
Prerequisite: LIS601.

Course Objectives
To gain an awareness and practical understanding of the information structure for the various disciplines in the social sciences including the interdisciplinary nature of several of these fields.

To gain practical experience with specific information resources in each social science field,

To enhance experience in evaluating sources of information for inclusion in research collections and more specific research strategies,

To gain an appreciation and understanding of the role of information professionals in supporting, enhancing, and influencing the processes of creation (research), utilization, and diffusion (teaching and learning) of information within social science disciplines.

To apply this acquired knowledge of the information professional’s role and experience with sources in the social sciences to construct research strategies, bibliographic tools and instructional materials.

**Course Overview**

In addition to an examination of sources and issues relating to the broad field of social sciences, the specific disciplines of political science, economics, history, anthropology, sociology, education, psychology, geography, communication, and criminal justice will be studied. Business and law are disciplines treated in separate courses in the UK SLIS curriculum and will only be studied in this course as they relate to the interdisciplinary information needs of users in the disciplines that are the focus of this course.

**Course Outline**

More detail on each module of the course, along with course module periods and due dates are available in the course Blackboard site.

- Course Introduction
- General Social Sciences and Expanded Study Projects
- Political Science and Subject Expertise for Librarians
- Economics and Reference Source Reviewing
- History and Response Management
- Sociology
- Anthropology and Information Production/Dissemination
- Education and Instruction
- Psychology and Access Vocabulary
- Geography and Collection Assessment
- Communications
- Criminal Justice

**Required Textbook:**


Additional readings which are available online may be assigned.

**STUDENT EVALUATION**

**Grading Parameters**

**Weekly Assignments**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Maximum Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Questions Assignments (One Lesson has an alternative project)</td>
<td>4 points for each completed assignment which meets minimum requirements = 48 points possible*</td>
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<td>*Students may submit additional assignments within each Lesson for extra credit points only after completing the projects assigned for their own designated group.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Detailed grading of 5 questions – randomly selected, 10 additional points each = Total 50 additional points possible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in Class Discussions and Activities</td>
<td>20 points for each third of the course = Total 60 points possible</td>
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**Expanded Study Projects**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Maximum Points Possible</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Subject Portal Recommendation</td>
<td>10 points each = Total 10 points possible</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Source Reviews</td>
<td>20 points each = Total 40 points possible</td>
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**Grading Rubric (See Submission of Course Assignments in the Blackboard Course Documents for full details and example assignment responses)**

**Assignment Grading**

To achieve the minimal scores for assignments you will need to:

- Submit your assignment or make your postings in the Discussion Boards by the due date.
• Complete each part of the assignment.
• Include at least basic analysis, justification, and support for your responses. Simple statements such as “I would go into more depth for a graduate student research question than for a high student’s project,” “Some relevant hits were found,” “I agree with you.” etc. will not qualify for achieving the minimal points for the assignment.

Points earned will be based upon the quality of the work you turn in. Work may be judged as:
• Emerging – with evidence that you are making efforts to successfully complete the assignment; progressive development in the level of detail provided in responses submitted; incorporation of text materials into efforts to respond thoroughly to assignment questions
• Competent – in addition, content shows a progressive building of reference skills and knowledge of social science resources; that connections are made between skills taught in different lessons; group discussion is supported by posting initial responses to assignments early in the course lesson period and continuing involvement in those discussions.
• Exemplary – in addition, materials submitted demonstrate insight; work portrays an understanding of broader application of concepts; frequently additional research is presented in support of assignment materials.

Grading Scale
A minimum of 208 points will be available during the semester. Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>187 points and above</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>166 – 186 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>145 – 165 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>144 points and below</td>
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Submission of Course Assignments
All assignments are due no later than 5 PM (Eastern Time) on the due date.
NOTE: Except in cases of emergencies, make-ups/late assignments must be approved in advance of due dates. Arrangements for completing assignments late will be rarely granted and are available only at the discretion of the instructor.

A significant factor in maximizing this educational experience will be each student’s contributions to the scholarly discussions of the course. This online course is not a self-paced, independent learning tutorial. It is intended to function as a collaborative learning community. Therefore, coursework will be scheduled within Course Lesson time periods so that students can interact with each other as well as with the instructor. Each student shares responsibility with fellow classmates for the depth of content in this course.

Each assignment will include details for submission, either a link to the Discussion Board, a Blackboard Test, or naming instructions for files to be submitted via email.
TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Distance Learning Students are expected to have a minimum level of technological acumen and the availability of technological resources. Students must have regular access a computer with a reliable Internet connection and audio capabilities. Internet Explorer 7 (IE) or Firefox 2.x are the recommended browsers for those using a Windows-based PC. Those using Firefox 3.x may encounter problems with assignment uploads. Those using an Apple computer with MAC OS X (10.5.x) may use Firefox 3.x or Safari 3.x.

Please be certain that your computer and/or browser allow you to view Adobe Reader documents (.pdf). Microsoft Office and other software products are free for students: https://iweb.uky.edu/MSDownload/.

If you need more immediate assistance, please contact TASC or UKIT.

Teaching and Learning Services Center (TASC)
http://www.uky.edu/TASC/; 859-257-8272

Information Technology Customer Service Center (UKIT)
http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/; 859-257-1300

Library Services
Many of our class resources are available online through UK Libraries or other library websites. (Although you need to purchase the course textbook and may need to visit local libraries for completing Reference Question assignments.) You will be accessing databases and The Guide to Reference text through UK Libraries.

As you extend your research and wish to access any materials that are not available electronically, you will find the services of UK’s Distance Librarian, Carla Cantagallo helpful.

- http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS
- Local phone number: 859 257-0500, ext. 2171; long-distance phone number: (800) 828-0439 (option #6)
- Email: dllservice@email.uky.edu
- DL Interlibrary Loan Service:

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

Work Load Estimate
Expectations for graduate course work are based upon a 4:1 ratio, i.e. for each hour of course credit, four hours of class work/preparation/study/application of course content will be required. At times in the semester you may be spending more or less than twelve hours per week on this course. This work load expectation will serve as an average estimation for your planning purposes.
Policies concerning academic integrity, excused absences and academic accommodations due to disability are available online at: http://www.uky.edu/CIS/SLIS/academics/policies.pdf

12/5/2010