LIS 622-201 Social Science Information
Course Syllabus
Spring 2010

Course Description and Objectives
This course is an advanced study of information resources in the social science
disciplines and will build upon the introductory experience of LIS 601 in the examination
of core information sources and services. The course objectives are designed to facilitate
students’ achievement in:

- Gaining 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,
- Gaining practical experience with specific information resources in each social
  science field,
- Enhancing experience in evaluating sources of information for inclusion in
  research collections and more specific research strategies,
- Gaining 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.
- Applying 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 Content
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 Text
Selected Sources, Greenwood Village, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 3rd edition, 2002. UK
Bookstore Online Ordering: http://www.uky.bkstr.com
Also available from online book sellers or directly from the publisher at
http://www.lu.com or 1-800-225-5800.

American Library Association, Guide to Reference Sources, available online through our
Blackboard course site.
Grading

**Weekly Assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Maximum Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Questions</td>
<td>4 points for each completed assignment which meets minimum requirements = 44 points possible*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<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>
<td></td>
<td>Detailed grading of 8 questions – randomly selected, 5 additional points each = Total 40 additional points possible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in Class Discussions and Activities</td>
<td>30 points for each third of the course = Total 90 points possible</td>
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**Expanded Study Projects**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Maximum Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Topic Comparisons</td>
<td>5 points each = Total 10 points possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Subject Portal</td>
<td>10 points each = Total 10 points possible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recommendation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Source Reviews</td>
<td>20 points each = Total 40 points possible</td>
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**Course Total Possible Points:** 234

- **Grading Scale**
  - A 210 points and above
  - B 187 – 209 points
  - C 163 - 186 points
  - E 162 points and below

**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.

**Course Delivery**

Class materials will be available in an online Blackboard site. Many reference sources 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 will be offered, particularly in response to a class-wide interest. The course instructor may be contacted via email or phone. In addition, online office hours will be available. If desired, an in-person appointment can be made with the instructor. There will not be any required F2F class meetings.

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.

1/13/2010