Course Description
An introduction to the nature of information (both utilitarian and aesthetic) in contemporary society, and to the role played by libraries and other information organizations in disseminating that information. Emphasis is on developing perspective.

Course Goals
LIS 600 addresses the “Foundations of the profession” core competency area, as approved by the ALA. The course provides the following content: the history of library science and information science; core concepts of the field; the ethics and foundational principles of the field; key issues faced by LIS practitioners, and relevant social, economic, and cultural trends.

Textbook

Contact Information
I am most accessible through email: anthony.ubelhor@uky.edu. As a general rule, I will respond to course-related email correspondence within 24 business hours (it may be longer over weekends and during holidays). Please include the course number in brackets [LIS600] in the subject line for all messages. I am happy to meet with students online, but you should set up the appointment in advance via email. Please note that class communication is done via your official UK email address. You must check this frequently.

Course Format and Schedule
This is an online course. The Blackboard course management system will be used to facilitate the class. Please see the “Technical Requirements” section of this syllabus to learn about this system and the login requirements. Course weeks start on Monday and end on Sunday. You will be expected to complete all required readings and assignments during the time frame given. Go to “Course Content” on Blackboard for details.
ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Reading
Completing the required reading each week is essential to doing well in the class. Many readings can be found in our textbook. The other readings will be made available to you via Blackboard or through our library databases. Other material may also be required, such as PowerPoint slides, news articles, or videos. It is your responsibility to read and/or view this material as well. If you encounter a broken link or have trouble accessing something, contact me.

Written Assignments
You will write three essays in this course. Each essay should be around 2000 words (five pages) and will be worth 20% of your final grade. More information about the essay topics will be available in Blackboard.

Essays must be submitted via Blackboard and are due by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) on the due date. Submission dates will be based on the time stamp provided by Blackboard. Essays may be turned in early, though no extra credit is received for this. I will return graded essays to you in a timely fashion. All assignments will be turned in and returned to students via Blackboard.

When submitting essays via Blackboard, make sure to give your work a document name to indicate what the item is (eg. “lastname-essay1”). Also, make sure your word processing software allows you to save files in Microsoft Word format (.doc, .docx, or .rtf). I cannot read Macintosh .pages files, so Mac users will need to save their assignments in a different format.

Participation
In this course, participation is measured by your contributions to the Blackboard discussions. At the start of each week several discussion topics will be posted in the discussion forum. The topics will relate to the course readings and any supplementary material assigned. You are expected to make at least one original posting on the topic of your choice and two responses to other students’ postings per week. This is the minimum requirement—the equivalent of a "B" grade for participation. Less participation will lower the grade; frequent, informed participation will raise it to a maximum of 3 points per week. You will be evaluated based on the substance, facts, ideas, opinions, tone, and style of you responses to the discussion board topic. “I agree with the author” will not be deemed a credit-worthy response. Participation is worth 20% of your final grade.

Final Exam
This will be a test taken through Blackboard to evaluate your mastery of basic information and concepts throughout the semester. It is worth 20% of your final grade.

Grading Parameters
The final grade in this course is determined according to the following percentages:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay #1</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay #2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay #3</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Grades are based on a percentage scale. Grading will not be done on a curve. You can check your
grade at any time or email me with any questions regarding grading. Late assignments will lose 10% for each day they are late. For example, if a paper is worth 20 points, and it is one day late, you will lose 2 points. (NOTE: Assignments more than one week past the original due date will not be graded.) Exceptions will be granted rarely—in advance and in writing. If you are going to turn in a late assignment, contact me as soon as possible to discuss the situation. At the end of the course, I will convert the points earned into a percentage:

- A = 90% and above (Exceptional achievement)
- B = 80% to 89% (Average achievement)
- C = 70% to 79% (Below average achievement)
- E = below 70% (Fail)

I assign incompletes only when I am convinced the student’s circumstances warrant it.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Academic Integrity**

According to Senate Regulation 6.3.1: “All academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.” For specific information regarding the University’s code and regulations on plagiarism and cheating, visit:

- [http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/](http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/)
- [http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html](http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html)
- [http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/Plagiarism.pdf](http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/Plagiarism.pdf)

**Academic Accommodations Due to Disability**

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS, INFORMATION & RESOURCES**

This course will be conducted asynchronously via the Blackboard course management system. Please visit the links below to learn about this system and the login requirements:

- [http://www.uky.edu/DistanceLearning/current/technology/blackboard.html](http://www.uky.edu/DistanceLearning/current/technology/blackboard.html)
- [http://www.uky.edu/Blackboard/](http://www.uky.edu/Blackboard/)

In order to have a successful educational experience in distance learning courses, there are minimum technology requirements that should be met. You can review the minimum recommendations and guidelines for your computer at:

- [http://www.uky.edu/ukit/hardwareguide](http://www.uky.edu/ukit/hardwareguide)

The UKIT Service Desk is available to help with any computer or technical issue you encounter, 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Whether you are having trouble logging into a course or have a question about installing software, the service desk is available to help. Contact them at:
# COURSE SCHEDULE
*(Schedule is subject to change. Changes will be posted in the Announcements.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics &amp; Dates</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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| **1. Aug. 27-Sept. 7.**  
**Intro. to program and core competencies.** | • SLIS graduation requirements and the final portfolio:  
   [https://ci.uky.edu/lis/content/graduation-requirements-and-final-portfolio](https://ci.uky.edu/lis/content/graduation-requirements-and-final-portfolio)  
   - Be sure to watch the entire video on that page  
   - Click on the “walk-through tutorial” link and view the tutorial  
   - Click on the “most current instructions” and read them (Note: these instructions may change as you progress through the program)  
• ALA Core competencies:  
• Complete academic integrity training, linked on Blackboard.  
• Complete training on finding, evaluating, and using resources, linked on Blackboard.  
• Introduce yourself to the class in the discussion forum. |
| **2. Sept. 8-14.**  
**History of library and information science.** | • Rubin textbook: Chapter 2: From past to present (pp. 35-76) and Chapter 7: Information science: A service perspective (pp. 271-309).  
• Smithsonian Institute. (2013). Japanese illustrated books tell of vibrant reading culture in Edo-period Japan. Available here:  
   [http://newsdesk.si.edu/releases/japanese-illustrated-books-tell-vibrant-reading-culture-edo-period-japan](http://newsdesk.si.edu/releases/japanese-illustrated-books-tell-vibrant-reading-culture-edo-period-japan)  
| **3. Sept. 15-21.**  
**The Information society: Implications for LIS.** | • Rubin textbook: Chapter 1: The educational, recreational and informational infrastructure (pp. 7-34).  
• Shafique, F., & Mahinood, K. (2010). The need of information systems |


- Read at least one of the following:

### 5. Sept. 29-Oct. 5. LIS professions.

**Essay #1 due by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) on 10/05.**

- Rubin textbook: Chapter 3: Library & information science: An evolving profession (pp. 77-126).

### 6. Oct. 6-12.
#### Libraries by type: public and school libraries.
- Rubin textbook: Chapter 5: The library as an institution (pp. 165-224).

#### Libraries by type: academic and special libraries.
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<td>• Rubin textbook: Chapter 8: Information policy: Stakeholders and agendas (pp. 309-370).</td>
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- Essay #2 due by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) on 11/09.  
- Rubin textbook: Chapter 10: The values and ethics of LIS (pp. 405-439).  
- Stripling, B.K. (2013). Intellectual freedom: Moving beyond freedom from...to freedom to...*Indiana Libraries*, 32(1), 8-12.  
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<tr>
<td>Essay #3 due by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) on 12/07.</td>
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