Overview

Course Description: Designed to be applicable to all types of libraries and information organizations, this course provides a deep look at intellectual freedom and related issues. We discuss how the core values of the profession can serve as a guide when faced with ethically challenging situations. We examine several issues related to intellectual freedom beyond the library.

Contact Information: I am most accessible through email: shannon.oltmann@uky.edu. As a general rule, I will respond to course-related email correspondence within 24 business hours (responses may be slower during the weekends and holidays). Please include the course number in brackets [xxx] in the subject line for all messages. I am happy to meet via technology with students, but you should set up the appointment in advance via email.

Please note that class communication is done via your official UK email address and Canvas messaging. You must check both of these frequently.

Course Objectives: At the end of the semester, students will be able to:
- Articulate the meaning and importance of intellectual freedom.
- Evaluate and respond to challenges to library materials.
- Analyze ethical issues that pertain to librarianship through an intellectual freedom lens.

Assignments
Participation 20% of final grade
Core value essay 15% of final grade
Response to challenge 20% of final grade
Sharing core values 20% of final grade
Group presentation 25% of final grade
Summary of module schedule and due dates:

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<th>Module</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment due (last day of module)</th>
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<td>Module 1</td>
<td>Intellectual freedom and core values</td>
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<td>Module 2</td>
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Course Schedule

Part One: Basics of Intellectual Freedom and Core Values

Module 1: Intellectual freedom and core values


Module 2: Ethical frameworks

Note: Core value essay due


*Part Two: Communicating Intellectual Freedom*

**Module 3: Challenges to library materials**

**Module 4: Sharing our core values**

*Note: Response to challenge due*

*Part Three: Our Values in the Broader World*

**Module 5: Internet filtering**
Module 6: Privacy
Note: Sharing core values due


Module 7: Copyright and open access

- Creative commons website: [https://www.creativecommons.org](https://www.creativecommons.org). Read the following sections:
  - Use & remix (and links under “in this section” on the right).
  - What we do (and links under “in this section” on the right).

Module 8: Net neutrality
Note: Group presentation due

- Electronic Frontier Foundation. (2019). Net neutrality. Available at: [https://www.eff.org/issues/net-neutrality](https://www.eff.org/issues/net-neutrality). (Read some of the links as well.)