Instructor: Jen Gilbert, MSLIS, Certified School Library
Office Address: Distance Learning
Email: jennifer.gilbert@uky.edu
Office hours: By appointment
Virtual Office hours: Same as above in Canvas
Preferred method of contact: I usually respond to questions within 1 day, including weekends and holidays. Students will be informed of anything happening that would prevent this.

Course Description
Gain knowledge about information sources, information retrieval, and professional information management. Learn how information sources are described, organized, and disseminated using metadata standards and publishing practices. Acquire the skills to locate and retrieve quality sources of information with search engines and databases. Implement knowledge management technologies and apply an understanding of social factors in order to create efficient and usable organizational work flows.

Student Learning Outcomes
After completing this course, students will be able to:
- collect information using search techniques and apply post processing practices based on the results (Program Learning Outcome);
- select and justify relevant information (Program Learning Outcome);
- evaluate and apply technology resources (Program Learning Outcome).

Required Materials
The following textbook is required and available at the UK bookstore or through various online merchants:


Readings: Additional required readings are listed in the Reading List at the end of the syllabus following the tentative course schedule.

Course Activities and Assignments
This course is taught as an online/distance education course via Canvas. It is expected that students will devote a considerable amount of time to study the materials, information sources and services covered here.
Class Assignments: Assignments constitute 50% of the student’s grade. There are five assignments in this course. A full description of each assignment will be posted on Canvas at least three weeks before the due date.

Class Discussions/Participation: Class participation constitutes 50% of the student’s grade. There are fifteen graded discussion posts in this course. Each discussion post is based on the weekly topic, lecture, and readings. Students are expected to complete these discussion posts. Additional instructions will be posted in each discussion forum on Canvas.

Students may elect to skip two discussion posts and receive full credit (but no extra credit) for them. To receive this credit, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the Instructor by the last day of class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Behavior Journal</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9/09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliographic Reference Managers</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wikipedia: Identify, Search, Collect</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wikipedia: Revising Articles</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>12/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Behavior Journal II</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>12/09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions/Participation</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary Description of Course Assignments
This is a short summary of the course assignments. More complete assignment descriptions will be posted on Canvas on the Assignments page at least three weeks before the due date.

Information Behavior Journal 1 & 2: At the beginning of the course, students will write a short reflection on their academic information behavior. At the end of the course, students will write a follow up reflection, noting how their academic information behavior has changed due to the materials and practices learned in this course.

Bibliographic Reference Managers: Students will identify three separate bibliographic reference manager applications and write an essay comparing and contrasting these applications. Based on their analysis, students will select a bibliographic reference manager application to use in their studies.

Wikipedia: Identify, Search, Collect: Students will select a Wikipedia article to edit, and using their bibliographic reference manager, identify and annotate sources to add to the Wikipedia article.

Wikipedia: Revising Articles: Students will revise their selected Wikipedia articles by adding additional and revising existing text and supporting their changes with bibliographic references to the article.

Course Grading

Grading Scale (No Rounding):
90 – 100% = A
80 – 89% = B
70 – 79% = C
60 – 69% = D
Below 60% = E
**Participation**: Class participation (discussion posts) constitutes 50% of the student's grade. Students are expected to complete weekly exercises and readings and write discussion responses. Instructions will be posted on Canvas in each discussion forum.

**Final Exam Information**: There is no final exam in this course.

**Mid-term Grade**: Mid-term grades will be posted in myUK by the deadline established in the Academic Calendar: [http://www.uky.edu/registrar/content/academic-calendar](http://www.uky.edu/registrar/content/academic-calendar)

**Course Policies**

**Submission of Assignments**
Course assignments will be uploaded via Canvas. Assignments are due by midnight of the due date noted on each assignment.

**Late Work**: Discussion posts and assignments completed by their due dates will receive 2.5 extra credit points. Discussion posts and assignments completed after the due date may receive full credit, if they are submitted by the last day of the module. Discussion posts and assignments submitted after the last day of the module will be receive a 10% deduction for each day late. No work for a module will be accepted after three days past the last day of the module.

**Attendance Policy**
Since this is an online, asynchronous course, students are simply required to work at a reasonable pace. Students are encouraged to submit all work by all due dates, and will receive extra credit on discussion posts and assignments if they submit these by the due dates. Work will be accepted for full potential credit if it is submitted after the due date and before the end of the module. No work is accepted after the third day past the last day of the module. Students are allowed to pass on two discussion posts and receive full credit (but no extra credit), if they notify the Instructor.

**Excused Absences**
Students need to notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible. Senate Rules 5.2.4.2 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other circumstances found to fit “reasonable cause for nonattendance” by the professor.

Students anticipating an absence for a major religious holiday are responsible for notifying the instructor in writing of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day in the semester to add a class. Two weeks prior to the absence is reasonable, but should not be given any later. Information regarding major religious holidays may be obtained through the Ombud (859-257-3737, [http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/ForStudents_ExcusedAbsences.php](http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/ForStudents_ExcusedAbsences.php).

Per Senate Rule 5.2.4.2, students missing any graded work due to an excused absence are responsible: for informing the Instructor of Record about their excused absence within one week following the period of the excused absence (except where prior notification is required); and for making up the missed work. The professor must give the student an opportunity to make up the work and/or the
exams missed due to an excused absence, and shall do so, if feasible, during the semester in which the absence occurred.

Students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the classes scheduled for the semester are missed (excused) per University policy. For an online course, students are expected to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the graded online discussions are missed (this equates to 3 discussion posts).

**Verification of Absences**
Students may be asked to verify their absences in order for them to be considered excused. *Senate Rule 5.2.4.2* states that faculty have the right to request “appropriate verification” when students claim an excused absence because of illness, or death in the family. Appropriate notification of absences due to University-related trips is required prior to the absence when feasible and in no case more than one week after the absence.

**Academic Integrity**
Per University policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the University may be imposed.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Complete information can be found at the following website: [http://www.uky.edu/Ombud](http://www.uky.edu/Ombud). A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

*Senate Rules 6.3.1* (see [http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/](http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/)) states that 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.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording, or content from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism.

Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work (including, but not limited to a published article, a book, a website, computer code, or a paper from a friend) without clear attribution. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work, which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be. Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone.

When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources or information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she has employed them. If the words of
someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content, and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas, which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain.

Please note: Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

Accommodations Due to Disability
If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC coordinates campus disability services available to students with disabilities. It is located on the corner of Rose Street and Huguelet Drive in the Multidisciplinary Science Building, Suite 407. You can reach them via phone at (859) 257-2754 and via email at drc@uky.edu. Their web address is http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/DisabilityResourceCenter/.

Policies concerning academic integrity, excused absences and academic accommodations due to disability are available online at: https://ci.uky.edu/sis/sites/default/files/policies.pdf

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: http://download.uky.edu/.

As your instructor, I am your first go-to person for technology problems. If you need more immediate assistance, please contact UKIT.

Information Technology Customer Service Center (UKIT)
http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/; 859-218-4357

Library Services & Distance Learning Services
http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS
• Carla Cantagallo, DL Librarian
• Local phone number: (859) 257-0500, ext. 2171; long-distance phone #: (800) 828-0439 (option #6)
• Email: dllservice@email.uky.edu
• DL Interlibrary Loan Service: http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/libpage.php?lweb_id=253&llib_id=16

For more resources about online classes and student resources, visit http://www.uky.edu/ukonline/
The School of Information Science has a page with a comprehensive list of technology resources here: 
http://ci.uky.edu/sis/students/techtips

**Military Members and Veterans**
We recognize the complexities of being a member of the military community and also a student. If you are a member of the military or a military veteran or dependent, please inform your instructor if you are in need of special accommodations. Drill schedules, calls to active duty, mandatory training exercises, complications with GI Bill disbursement, and other unforeseen military and veteran related developments can complicate your academic life. If you are aware of a complication, we will work with you and put you in contact with university staff members who are trained to assist you. Please contact the Coordinator of the University of Kentucky Veterans Resource Center at (859) 257-1148 for additional assistance. Visit http://www.uky.edu/veterans for more available resources.

**Civility and Professionalism**
Students must learn to meet the standards of professional behavior and treat each other with respect. Critical inquiry is important, but attacking other persons, verbally or otherwise, is not accepted.

Students must learn to receive and act on constructive criticism, be reliable and responsible, polite and respectable of others, and focus on producing above quality work.
## Tentative Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>08/23 – 08/29</td>
<td>Introduction to Course &amp; Sources of Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>08/30 – 09/05</td>
<td>Information Search: Databases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>09/06 – 09/12</td>
<td>Browsing &amp; Searching: Databases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>09/13 – 09/19</td>
<td>Information Search: Search Engines, Part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>09/20 – 09/26</td>
<td>Information Search: Search Engines, Part 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>09/27 – 10/03</td>
<td>Evaluating and Managing Search and Retrieval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Module 2: Managing Information</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10/04 – 10/10</td>
<td>Managing Academic Sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10/11 – 10/17</td>
<td>Managing Non-Academic Sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Module 3: Special Information Sources</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/18 – 10/24</td>
<td>General-Interest and Scholarly Databases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10/25 – 10/31</td>
<td>Business and Statistics Databases</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11/01 – 11/07</td>
<td>Funding and Health Databases</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Module 4: Personalizing Information</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/08 – 11/14</td>
<td>Note-taking and Outlining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11/15 – 11/21</td>
<td>Annotating the Web &amp; Understanding Metadata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>11/22 – 11/28</td>
<td>Developing an Information and Knowledge Work Flow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>11/29 – 12/05</td>
<td>Conclusion: Humility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reading List

Module 1: Search

Week 1: 08/23 – 08/29: Introduction to Course & Sources of Information
1. Syllabus and Canvas Review
2. Introduction & Chapter 9, Knott

Week 2: 08/30 – 09/05: Information Search: Databases
1. Chapters 7 & 8, Knott
2. Internet Archive & Wayback Machine:
3. DPLA:

Week 3: 09/06 – 09/12: Browsing & Searching: Databases
1. Chapter 10, Knott

Week 4: 09/13 – 09/19: Information Search: Search Engines Part 1

Week 5: 09/20 – 09/26: Information Search: Search Engines, Part 2

Week 6: 09/27 – 10/03: Evaluating and Managing Search and Retrieval
1. Chapters 11 & 12, Knott
Module 2: Managing Information

Week 7: 10/04 – 10/10: Managing Academic Sources

Week 8: 10/11 – 10/17: Managing Non-Academic Sources

Module 3: Special Information Sources

Week 9: 10/19 – 10/25: General-interest and Scholarly Databases

Week 10: 10/26 – 11/01: Business and Statistics Databases
1. Chapters 3 & 4, Knott

Week 11: 11/02 – 11/08: Funding and Health Databases
1. Chapters 5 & 6, Knott

Module 4: Personalizing Information

Week 12: 11/09 – 11/15: Note-taking and Outlining

1. Annotating the Web
   • See:
2. Metadata

Week 14: 11/27 – 12/03: Developing an Information and Knowledge Work Flow

Week 15: 12/04 – 12/09: Conclusion -- Humility