SCHOOL OF INFORMATION SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

LIS 601 Information Search
Syllabus – Fall 2017: August 23 – December 8

Instructor Information:
Name: Shannon Crawford Barniskis
Email: barniskis@uky.edu
Preferred Method of Contact: Email (Response time generally within 24 hours on weekdays)
Office hours: Online, by appointment

COURSE FORMAT
This is an online course, which requires asynchronous class discussion via Canvas to facilitate a sense of community. Canvas will also be used for making course announcements, distributing reading materials, submitting assignments and posting grades.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
LIS601 is one of the four core courses in the MSLS program. The course description reads: Within given theoretical contexts, students search and retrieve organized information. Students learn to construct, apply, and critically evaluate advanced information search and retrieval strategies.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:
• Identify, analyze, and critically evaluate major theories and models of information behavior in multiple contexts.
• Describe methods providing information services to diverse communities and individuals with appropriate resources.
• Identify basic concepts of information retrieval and its relationship with information organization.
• Construct and apply information search strategies informed by an understanding of information organization.
• Critically evaluate information retrieval systems based on different systems of organization, such as OPACs, online databases, and digital libraries.

COURSE ACTIVITIES, ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING
Your final grade is determined by your performance on the items in the table below. There are four search exercise assignments (80%). Each assignment will be posted at least three weeks before its due date. In Assignment 1 & 2, you will solve a series of different types of search questions using academic online databases provided by EBSCOhost and/or Proquest. In Assignment 3, you will retrieve a selection of sources to solve given search tasks using WorldCat. In Assignment 4, you will exercise searching multimedia items using digital collections. For each assignment, you will need to provide a report of search process, including search statement, search strategies, resource evaluation, and others. Detailed instructions will be given later during the semester. In addition, you will need to participate in weekly online discussion (20%).
At the end of the course, I will convert the points earned into a percentage:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% and above</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80% to 89%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>70% to 79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>below 70%</td>
<td>E</td>
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I assign the grade of I (incomplete) only when I am convinced the student’s circumstances warrant it.

**Participation**
- Participation points come from both quantity and quality of posts to the discussion board. For each week, we are going to have a discussion forum for class discussion.
- These discussions will generally occur in groups, which will be rotated through the semester, so you will be able to interact with more of your colleagues. In the forums, you can discuss an important issue of each week’s topic posted by the instructor as well as any questions, ideas or thoughts you have regarding the topic, slides, readings or exercises for that week.
- To get full credits for class participation, each student needs to participate in at least twice in each of the forums.
- Each student needs to read/view any required readings, lectures, and other students’ postings, before posting her/his messages.
- The week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday at midnight. Please submit your first post no later than Thursday. Although you can continue participating in the earlier week discussions (and are encouraged to do so), no credit will be given for posts that occur after the week in which they are assigned. Late postings incur a 10% point reduction for each 24-hour period they are late.

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS**
To complete this course successfully, you should do the following:
- Read all required readings, and view any lectures or assigned media.
- Participate in weekly discussions.
- Submit all assignments on time, according to Eastern Standard Time.
- Respond to occasional email requests or questions posted in Canvas course announcements in a timely fashion.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**
- All other texts are provided in Canvas.
TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- You will need access to an appropriate computer with a broadband Internet connection. Note that it is your responsibility to ensure you have a reliable computer for use during the course. Ongoing “computer problems” will not be considered a legitimate excuse for missing course activities.
- All UK students are eligible for a one time free download of Office from the UK download site (https://download.uky.edu); you can get help with this process from the UK helpdesk (859.257.1300; http://www.uky.edu/IT/CustomerService/).
- A working speaker is required to watch some video materials.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic/Readings/Assignments</th>
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| 1    | 8/23-8/27 | **Course Overview**  
- Read the syllabus  
- View the Course introduction lecture  
- Introduce yourself |
| 2    | 8/28-9/3  | **Introduction to Information & Access**  
| 3    | 9/4-9/10 | **Database Structure: Records, Fields, & Indexes**  
- Bell Chapters 1 & 2 (p. 1-26) |
| 4    | 9/11-9/17 | **The Searcher’s Toolkit: Part 1**  
- Bell Chapter 3 (p. 27-48)  
| 5    | 9/18-9/24 | **The Searcher’s Toolkit: Part 2**  
- Bell Chapter 4 (p. 49-62)  
- Information about Assignment 1 (Due 10/8). |
| 6    | 9/25-10/1 | **Social Science Databases**  
- Bell Chapter 5 (p. 63-92) |
| 7    | 10/2-10/8 | **Humanities Databases**  
- Bell Chapter 8 (p. 155-182)  
- Information about Assignment 2 (Due 10/22). |
| 8    | 10/9-10/15 | **Databases for Science, Medicine & Numbers**  
- Bell Chapter 6 (p. 93-134)  
- Bell Chapter 9 (p. 183-210) |

Assignment 1. Due: October 8, by 11:59 pm
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/16-10/22</td>
<td>Searching in OPACs (1)</td>
<td>Bell Chapter 7 (p. 135-154)</td>
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<td>Information about Assignment 3 (Due 11/5).</td>
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<td>Case Studies – American Memory, HathiTrust Digital Library, Kentucky Digital Library, New York Public Library Digital Gallery, and others</td>
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<td>Information about Assignment 4 (Due 12/3).</td>
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<td>Extra Credit Opportunity available (Due 11/27).</td>
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**COURSE POLICIES**

**Absences**
In an online course, there can still be excused absences. If you are ill or have an otherwise excusable absence, I will not deduct points for failure to participate in a given week, or I can extend deadlines for projects and assignments.

Students need to notify the instructor 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 instructor.

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)).

Students are strongly encouraged to withdraw from the class if more than 20% of the scheduled classes for the semester are missed per university policy. Please reference the definition of excused absences in the current edition of Student Rights and Responsibilities or on the web at [http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/rules_regulations/Rules%20Versions/MASTER%20RULES%20from%20February%202012_clean.pdf](http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/rules_regulations/Rules%20Versions/MASTER%20RULES%20from%20February%202012_clean.pdf).

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 instructor 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.

**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. 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/ for the current set of Senate Rules) 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 contact me as soon as possible. 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/](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

**Submission of Assignments**
Assignments are to be submitted in Canvas in the assignment folder. Acceptable formats are: doc, docx, pdf, odt, odf, rtf. If you must submit an assignment after their published due dates, contact the instructor. Penalties for late submissions will be specified in each assignment’s rubric, but generally entails 10% of the grade being lost each day that the assignment is late. If you have technical difficulties that preclude submitting your assignment on time, please contact the instructor immediately.

**Classroom Civility, Diversity, and Inclusivity**
All UK professional education programs address and affirm the value of diversity in education, the use of technology to support all aspects of instructional programming, and the importance of attaining high levels of skill in assessing the outcomes of instruction. In order to provide the rigorous debate and examination of ideas necessary for learning, civility is required, though debate is both a necessary and expected aspect of this course.

The College of Information and Communication’s mission is: “We are a community of scholars, educators, and advisors who prepare information professionals to be leaders and change agents in meeting the needs of a diverse and evolving society.” Thus, this course embraces diversity, professionalism, and inclusivity, even as it aims to support enlightened truth-seeking. Debate will occur within this framework. Students have the right to take reasoned exception and to voice opinions contrary to those offered by the instructor and/or other students (S.R. 6.1.2).

Equally, the instructor has the right – and the responsibility – to ensure that all academic discourse occurs in a context characterized by respect and civility. The course content and the course environment are dedicated to an understanding of and acceptance of all people. Disparaging remarks in relation to others’ ethnic or racial background, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, socioeconomic background, etc., will not be tolerated.

**Professional Preparation**
In a professional preparation program it is necessary to begin to understand one’s ethical duties within the context of the profession. In this course, the ALA Code of Ethics and the ACM Code of Ethics act as guidelines for our professional behavior and students are encouraged to study
them. [http://www.ala.org/tools/ethics][1] [https://www.acm.org/about-acm/acm-code-of-ethics-and-professional-conduct][2]

**Withdrawal Policy**
It is your responsibility to drop a course. Failure to do so will result in receiving an "E". See the Academic Calendar for important dates: [http://www.uky.edu/registrar/content/fall-2017-semester][3]

**COURSE RESOURCES**

**Technology**
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/][4]

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/][5]; 859-218-4357

**Canvas**
- We will use the Canvas learning management system to perform some course management and administrative functions. Please visit [https://uk.instructure.com/][6] to learn about this system and the login requirements. You should be automatically added to the Canvas roll; if this goes as expected, you will not have to sign up manually for the course.
- Canvas help is available online through the Canvas Guides: [https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/][7]

**Library Services & Distance Learning Services**
[http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS][8]
- 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

For more resources about online classes and student resources, visit [http://www.uky.edu/ukonline/][10]

The School of Information Science has a page with a comprehensive list of technology resources here: [http://ci.uky.edu/sis/students/techtips][11]
Writing Center

UK Writing Center offer both face-to-face and online consultation. And they also provide e-Tutoring consultation, via which you can send your work as an attachment. I highly encourage use of the Writing Center, even if you are an excellent writer. Details can be found here: http://ukwrite.wordpress.com/

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.