

Law Librarianship LIS 641

Summer 2016

School of Information Science

University of Kentucky

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Office Hours

As an online class office hours are a meaningless concept. In the world of law libraries you will be on call to attorneys, judges and other patrons via a variety of communication methods. This may be via phone, fax, e-mail, online chat, or live. As such those are all methods which I will employ to keep in contact with you. I will try and be accessible to you in all of the above mentioned ways, whichever is most convenient to our mutual schedules.

Required Text

The assigned text for this class is *Law Librarianship in the Digital Age*, editor Ellyssa Kroski, Scarecrow Press, Inc: Lanham (2014)

Course Grading

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| 1. | Law Library Visit & Report. | 40% |
| 2. | Online Discussions | 40% |
| 3. | Article Review | 20% |

Course Objectives & Student Learning Outcomes

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the field of law librarianship. Law librarians are trained to work with legal materials and conduct legal research for their clients, usually lawyers. You will visit a law library and write a paper describing what you learned during the visit. You will participate in online discussions where we will explore various topics affecting the law library world. Finally you will read and review an article dealing with a current topic in law librarianship.

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) is the professional organization that is

devoted to the advancement of the law library profession. AALL has created a core set of competencies for law librarians. These can be found at [<http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Leadership-Governance/policies/PublicPolicies/competencies.html>]. Please review these competencies so that you can gain a better understanding as to what it is that law librarians do. As you will see many law librarians serve as specialized Jack of All Trades. This class will give you a broad overview of the field. It is hoped that you will like what you learn and decide that this might very well be a career path that you would like to pursue.

Class Assignments

Section One: Online Discussions

This part of the course will be based on the readings in our textbook. Each week we will explore various chapters in the textbook. I will post questions for you to consider and I will ask individual students to be responsible for answering these questions. I will then comment and ask your fellow students to comment as well. Through these discussion forums I hope to give everyone a broader understanding of many of the issues that law librarians face each day. Our discussions will be asynchronous, but there will be set times when the discussions will begin and end. These discussions will occur via the Blackboard Discussions page.

Week 1: [June 9th-16th] Chapters 1 & 6 (pp.3-12, pp.89-106); Questions will be posted on June 9th, assigned students should have their answers posted by Noon (EST) on June 12th, and the discussion will be open through Noon on June 16th.

Week 2 [June 17th-23rd]: Chapter 7 (pp.109-122); Questions will be posted on June 17th, assigned students should have their answers posted by Noon (EST) on June 20th, and the discussion will be open through Noon on June 23rd.

Week 3 [June 24th- June 30th]: Chapters 14-17 (pp.235-311); Questions will be posted on June 24th, assigned students should have their answers posted by Noon (EST) on June 27th, and the discussion will be open through Noon on June 30th.

Week 4 [July 1st - July 7th]: Chapters 18-19 (pp.315-344); Questions will be posted on July 1st, assigned students should have their answers posted by Noon (EST) on July 4th, and the discussion will be open through Noon on July 7th.

Week 5 [July 8th - July 14th]: Chapters 20-21 (pp.347-371); Questions will be posted on July 8th, assigned students should have their answers posted by Noon (EST) on July 11th, and the discussion will be open through Noon on July 14th.

Week 6 [July 15th - July 21st]: Chapters 25-26 (pp.429-466); Questions will be posted on July 15th, assigned students should have their answers posted by Noon (EST) on July 18th, and the discussion will be open through Noon on July 21st.

Week 7 [July 22nd - July 28th]: Chapters 27-28 (pp.469-501); Questions will be posted on July

22nd, assigned students should have their answers posted by Noon (EST) on July 25th, and the discussion will be open through Noon on July 28th.

Section Two: Law Library Site Visit

I will assign you to a particular law library and librarian, you will arrange for a tour of the library and an interview. A report based on the interview will then be written up. A series of questions to consider will be circulated prior to the tour and interview are conducted. We will have a discussion forum open to discuss the visits beginning the week of **July 18th**.

Assignment: This assignment is available under the Assignment tab and must be submitted on the due date via this Tab. **The visit must occur by July 21st, and the report is due by August 4th, at 6:00pm EST.**

Section Three: Article Review

In order to gain a deeper understanding of the world of law librarianship you will read an article from Law Library Journal (the leading academic journal relating to law librarianship). I will then ask that you write up a 2-3 page summary of the article outlining what you believe to be the salient points from the article.

You may choose from the following recent articles. You need to clear with me the one you choose. It will be first come first served (so to speak) on the articles. So choose early. The article write-up is due to me by **July 18th, at 6:00pm EST**. I will post each student's article review on the course page so everyone can benefit from the information. We will also open a discussion forum for any questions that may arise.

Elizabeth Caulfield, *Is This a Profession? Establishing Educational Criteria for Law Librarians*, 106 Law Libr. J. 288 (2014).

Michael Whiteman, *Book Burning in the Twenty-First Century: ABA Standard 606 and the Future of Academic Law Libraries as the Smoke Clears*, 106 Law Libr. J. 11 (2014).

ALL-SIS Task Force on Library Marketing and Outreach, *Marketing and Outreach in Law Libraries: A White Paper*, 105 Law Libr. J. 525 (2013).

Simon Canick, *Library Services for the Self-Interested Law School: Enhancing the Visibility of Faculty Scholarship*, 105 Law Libr. J. 175 (2013).

Genevieve Blake Tung, *Academic Law Libraries and the Crisis in Legal Education*, 105 Law Libr. J. 275 (2013).

R. Lee Sims & Roberta Munoz, *The Long Tail of Legal Information: Legal Reference*

Service in the Age of the Content Farm, 104 Law Libr. J. 411 (2012).

Ashley Ahlbrand & Michael Johnson, *Degree Pedigree: Assessing the Effect of Degree-Granting Institutions' Ranks on Prospective Employment at Academic Law Libraries*, 104 Law Libr. J. 553 (2012).

Taylor Fitchett et. al., *Law Library Budgets in Hard Times*, 103 Law Libr. J. 91 (2011).

Michelle M. Wu, *Building a Collaborative Digital Collection: A Necessary Evolution in Libraries*, 103 Law Libr. J. 527 (2011).

Additional Information

Attendance Policy

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).

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.

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.

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 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&lweb_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](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.