

# LIS 610 Introduction to Library and Information Science

**Fall 1999:** Class meets Thursday 1:00-3:40 p.m. in HL 31

**Instructor:** Dr. Diane Nahl, Associate Professor

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**Office Hours:** Tuesday 12-3 p.m.; Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; and by appt.

## Course Description

Introduces students to the information society with an emphasis on libraries and their social utility. We consider the historical context and discuss the future of libraries and information centers in a changing technological world. Topics include: characteristics of the information professions, information ethics, intellectual freedom and intellectual property, access to information, as well as national and international library development.

**Prerequisite:** None

## Program Learning Objectives

This introductory survey course addresses the following objectives of the LIS Program, enabling students to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of the philosophy, principles, and ethics of library and information science;
2. demonstrate an understanding of the development and communication of knowledge;
3. attain basic competencies and knowledge that are essential for providing, managing, and designing information services in a variety of information environments;
4. demonstrate an understanding of the development and interrelationship of librarianship and information science;
5. demonstrate an understanding of the theories and processes for selecting and organizing

information sources;

6. demonstrate an understanding of the theories and processes involved in retrieval, dissemination, and utilization of information sources;

## **Course Learning Objectives**

This is an introductory survey course, enabling students to:

- (1) become acquainted with a variety of aspects of their chosen profession;
- (2) develop an understanding of the relationships and roles that libraries and comparable information agencies fulfill in the larger society, throughout history and into the future;
- (3) develop capacities for critical thinking, particularly in viewing major social issues and problems of concern to the profession;
- (4) gain experience in making informative presentations to colleagues on topics of interest to the profession;
- (5) gain experience in accessing information structure and assessing its uses;
- (6) and, on a personal level, to understand the potential scope and dimensions of the careers for which they are preparing, in order to perceive their own pathways to meaningful and rewarding work.

## **Teaching Method**

Primary emphasis is on wide reading, group discussion, and critical analysis. Oral and written assignments are designed to promote these activities. The assignment due dates are on the course schedule. Assignment instructions are in a separate handout. Attendance and constructive participation are required.

Because it provides a sensitizing framework for understanding the concerns of the profession, this should be the kind of course that students find more useful five years hence, rather than on their first day as a new librarian or information specialist.

## **Requirements**

## **Readings**

Gates, Jean Key. (1990). *Introduction to Librarianship*. 3rd ed. New York: Neal Schuman.

The text is available in the UH Bookstore. Assigned reading from the text is on the syllabus, and required discussion questions are in the Weekly Preparations handout.

Packets of required readings are available and instructions for obtaining them will be given in class. These readings and other assigned materials are in the Hamilton Library collection. The course bibliography lists many supplemental readings, and students are encouraged to read beyond the minimum requirements.

## **Assignments and Grading**

Five short, analytical reaction papers (6 pages) 75

One oral group report 15

Participation in class discussions & exercises 10

100

Grading Scale: 90-100 = A; 80-89 =B; 70-79 =C; 60-69 =D

## **Due Dates**

One point (1) will be deducted each day for late papers and assignments. If you miss class, you are responsible for obtaining notes from classmates and handouts from the instructor.

\*\* If you have an oral group report due the same day as a written paper, you may turn-in the written paper one session later without penalty.

## **Participation Requirements**

Students are required to participate in general and small group discussions of issues in class. In order to accomplish this, students must take written notes from the lectures and readings that address the weekly discussion questions, and verbally contribute constructive comments and reactions to the discussions on these questions. These notes will not be handed in, but they are necessary to facilitate active participation in class and to write the required papers. **Prepare your answers to these questions before class.**

In order to promote thoughtful consideration of issues, students are expected to discuss the readings without flipping through articles during the discussion to locate "the answer." Full points will be awarded only if all participation requirements are met.

10 All assignments handed in on time, frequently contributing to class discussions, frequently contributing to small group work, completing all class and homework exercises, perfect attendance, encouraging others to participate by making relevant comments in open discussions and lectures.

9 Perfect attendance, completing all class exercises and homework, regularly contributing to class discussions, frequently contributing in small group exercises, encouraging others to speak in class.

8 Near complete homework and class exercises, near perfect attendance, occasional contributions to class discussions, frequently contributing in small group exercises.

7 All assignments handed in, near perfect attendance, contributing once or twice to class discussions, regular contributions to small group work.

6 Two absences, incomplete exercises, no contributions to class discussions, regular contributions to small group work.

0-5 Three or more absences, no contributions to discussions, regular contributions to group work.

### **Technology Requirements**

This course requires you to use a computer to produce all of the written assignments. PCs and Macs are available in the LIS and UH computer labs, but you must bring your own paper to print. If you have a computer and modem at home or office, obtain the handout for remote access from the Hamilton Library Information Desk.

You are also required to obtain and use your free UHUNIX email account (or a commercial one if you prefer) to subscribe to lis-stu (our internal mail list for students). If you don't already have one, obtain an email account from Keller Hall and begin to use it immediately.

Students are expected to use the Internet to explore the issues presented in the course. This includes subscribing to at least two online discussion groups and using services of the Internet Public Library (IPL). Students will participate in discussions online, locate and study World Wide Web resources pertinent to the course topic, and write reports integrating these activities.

### **Course Schedule**

(Subject to change.)

Session	Date	Topics	Assignments & Due Dates
(1)	AUG 26	Technologies of Knowledge Organization and Information Structure.	Introduction to the course.
(2)	SEP 2	Unit I. Reading, Information-seeking, User needs and interests.	<b><u>Assignment: Informal Reading Survey Results Due</u></b>  <b><u>Required Readings:</u></b> Westin & Finger, Scheppke, ALA Gallup, Bales
(3)	SEP 9	Unit I. Reading, Information-seeking, User needs and interests.	<b><u>Required Readings:</u></b> Video 4844. "From Information to Wisdom?", T.D. Wilson, Dervin
(4)	SEP 16	Unit I. Reading, Information-seeking, User needs and interests.	<b><u>Required Readings:</u></b> Westbrook, Budd, Nahl  <b><u>Group Reports:</u></b> (Bancroft <i>et al.</i> )
(5)	SEP 23	Unit II. Types of Libraries and Information Work.	<b><u>Required Readings:</u></b> Gates pp. 105-152  <b><u>Group Reports:</u></b> Types of Information Work  <b><u>First Paper Due</u></b>
(6)	SEP 30	Unit II. Types of Libraries.  Unit III. Social Functions. Roles of Libraries, Information Workers in Society.	<b><u>Required Readings:</u></b> Unit II. Gates pp. 153-200  <b><u>Required Readings:</u></b> Unit III. MacLeish, Shera  <b><u>Group Reports:</u></b> Types of libraries; (Berninghausen <i>et al.</i> ); (Swan)

(7)	OCT 7	Unit IV. The Information Society.	<p><u>Group Reports:</u> Unit II. National Libraries (2)</p> <p><u>Required Readings:</u> Unit III. Finks, Gorman</p> <p><u>Required Readings:</u> Unit IV. Apostle &amp; Raymond, Cleveland, Wilson, Goodrum</p> <p><b><u>Second Paper Due</u></b></p>
(8)	OCT 14	Unit V. Functions of National and State Governments; National Libraries; The Federal Role, Copyright.	<p><u>Required Readings:</u> Nasri, Copyright Basics, Copyright law excerpt, Gasaway, Mann, Cyberspace-Law Web Site</p> <p><u>Group Reports:</u> Unit II. National Libraries (2)</p>
(9)	OCT 21	Unit VI. The Library and Information Professions: A. Characteristics and Relationships; B. Professional Associations.	<p><u>Required Readings:</u> Gates pp. 201-207, 215-222, &amp; 79-90, Mason, Virgo</p> <p><u>Group Reports:</u> (White); (Schuman, McMasters)</p>
(10)	OCT 28	Unit VI. The Library and Information Professions: C. Education for the Professions; D. Accreditation and Certification; Job Outlook and Job Interviews	<p><u>Required Readings:</u> Gates pp 91-103, Robbins, Buttlar &amp; DuMont, Tees, Zyroff</p> <p><u>Group Reports:</u> (Perritt); (Avery &amp; Ketchner); (Steinfirst &amp; Bracy); Catalog ex.; Focus groups</p> <p><b><u>Third Paper Due</u></b></p>

(11)	NOV 4	Unit VI. E. Standards and Guidelines  Unit VIII. History and Future of Libraries and Information Centers	<u>Required Readings:</u> RUSA Guidelines; Gates pp 1-77, Rettig, Stoffle <i>et al.</i> , Miksa, Benton Report, Cox, Crawford & Gorman, <u>Video 14688</u> "Into the Future...", <i>D-Lib Magazine</i>  <u>Group Reports:</u> (Digital Libraries); (Lankes)
	NOV 11	HOLIDAY: Veterans' Day	
(12)	NOV 18	Unit VI. The Library and Information Professions F. Ethics; G. Special Concerns: (a) Access--debates.	<u>Required Readings:</u> Gremmels, Stichler, Mason <i>et al.</i>  <u>Group Reports:</u> (Bodi)  <b><i><u>Fourth Paper Due</u></i></b>
	NOV 25	HOLIDAY: Thanksgiving Day	
(13)	DEC 2	Unit VI. The Library and Information Professions: G. Special Concerns: (a) Access; (b) Intellectual Freedom-- debates.	<u>Required Readings:</u> Symons & Stoffle, Vann, Wirth, Filtering Archives  <u>Group Reports:</u> (Sheerin)
(14)  Last day of class	DEC 9	Unit VI. The Library and Information Professions: G. Special Concerns: (c) Literacy & Information Literacy.  Last day of class.	<u>Required Readings:</u> Monroe, Literacy articles, Snaveley & Cooper  Course evaluations.
Finals Week	DEC 16		<b><i><u>Fifth Paper Due</u></i></b>