LIS 671 Digital Librarianship- DRAFT Syllabus- Summer 2010

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Home page: http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/
Class hours: 5:00 p.m. - 7:40 p.m. Classroom: POST 318B
Class office hours: after class + by appointments

Course Description
The course presents –from the viewpoint of librarians and information specialists- the evolving field of digital librarianship: the types of digital collections (open access, partially open access, subscription-based), the genres of digital document collections (bibliographic vs factographic, indexing, abstracting, full text databases), and the roles of the librarians and other information specialists of the digital age in discovering and facilitating access to the most appropriate digital resources for the users..

LIS Program Learning Goals and Objectives
- Demonstrate theoretical understanding of and basic competencies in evaluating, selecting and organizing information sources;(5)
- Demonstrate theoretical understanding of and basic competencies in retrieval, dissemination, utilization and evaluation of information sources;(6)
- Apply basic competencies and knowledge that are essential for providing, managing, and designing information services in a variety of information environments;(3)
- Demonstrate basic competency in the latest specialized information technologies;(11)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the above goals within the perspective of prevailing technologies.(12)

Course Learning Objectives
- To learn about the current state and the prospects of digital librarianship.
- To get familiar with the major projects, tools, resources and trends in digital librarianship, with emphasis on open access resources and tools.
- To understand the digital media alternatives and the essential features of software tools available for finding information efficiently, and
- To learn about creating simple but informative Webliographies/Webguides to help the searchers in discovering the most appropriate digital documents for their information need

ALA core competencies addressed:
Resource Building: creations, evaluation, selection of collections of information; storing, preserving and conserving information; (2)

Technological Knowledge: current information and communication technologies as they affect information centers, concepts and processes related to assessing and evaluating impact and efficacy of tech-based products and services, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and tools; (4)
**Knowledge Dissemination—Service**: concepts, principles and techniques that facilitate information access for users, interaction with users to provide consultation or guidance in use of information resources, assessment of user needs, diversity in user need. (5)

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**Professional Expectations**
All students in the Program are expected to become familiar with and adhere to the Professional Expectations posted at [http://www.hawaii.edu/lis/students.php?page=profexp](http://www.hawaii.edu/lis/students.php?page=profexp)

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**Methodology**
A combination of lectures, demonstrations, students’ presentations and class-room discussions. Active participation (not just attendance) is strongly encouraged, as it is part of the final grade. Missing class may make it much more difficult to do the assignments as short, live demonstrations will be made in classes. Questions related to the assignments are only answered in class to provide the same benefit for every student, and to provide level playing field for all. Each class starts with a Q/A session.

**Research Methods**
- Action Research
- Content Analysis
- Evaluation Research
- Experiment
- Heuristic Evaluation
- Information Retrieval

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**Reading and Instructional Materials**
There is no textbook, but there is content-rich digital reading list. The reading items and other instructional materials will be available at [http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/671/671-digr-10-sum.htm](http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/671/671-digr-10-sum.htm) on the first day of the course.

Many of the items in the reading list are hot linked either to Web sites free for anyone. For other items sufficient information is provided to locate the articles in various ProQuest, EBSCO and other databases or publisher’s digital collections, that are free for UH students and HSPLS card holders.

The digital reading list often saves the drudgery of locating items of the reading list on the shelves. Use the time saved for reading about digital reference sources, and testing them. The readings complement the lectures and presentations, provide background and further information.

Software and content features discussed in reviews and other articles keep changing for better or worse. It is essential to test the current version of a digital resource for determining its quality!

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**Assignments and Grading**
Students shall form a group of 3-4 members for the first two assignments. (max. 25% of the grades each) The term paper is a solo project (max. 40% of the grade). Quality of class-room
participation represent max 10% of the grade. For late papers 5 points are deducted for each 24-hour period after the deadline.

For the term paper students will prepare an annotated, hyperlinked Webliography/Webguide (in HTML format) of 25-30 articles, books, book chapters, conference papers, etc. related to the topic of tsunami and other natural disaster warning. Derivative works based on existing guides, bibliographies are not acceptable even if acknowledged and this principle will be vigorously enforced. The content of the Webliography/Webguide and its organization must reflect the students' choices and opinions about the sources based on their holding popularity and citedness. There are numerous tutorials on the Web about creating basic HTML pages. Students are urged to use a good screen capture program for the illustrations in their assignments. The easiest free capture program is ScreenGrab for Firefox. Snag-IT from TechSmith is one possible option, but choose what is appropriate for you as long as it allows you to do partial screen shots with digital highlighting and annotations (not just huge full-screen shots). Please see the page about the General Guidelines for the Assignments.

Course Topics and Content Outline

Introduction and Course Overview

Traditional and Novel Access to Information

Digital Dictionaries & Encyclopedias

Digital Almanacs, Factbooks, and Atlases

Digital Ready Reference Suites, Biographical, Quotation, and Review Collections

Student Groups' Presentations of Assignment #1 and related readings

Open Access Indexing/Abstracting Databases, and Digital Repositories

Digital Journal Collections of Publishers

Searching by Cited and Citing References

Student Groups' Presentations of Assignment #2 and related readings

eBook Collections, Discussion of term paper issues

Digital Non-book Directories & Catalogs

Students’ presentations of term papers