

**LIS 693a**  
**Special Topics in Librarianship**  
**Seminar on Library Leadership**  
**Summer II, July 7 - Aug 14, 2014**

**Instructor:** Gregg S. Geary, Ph.D., Visiting Professor, La Mirada, CA (Dean of Library and Media Services, Biola University)

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**Course Description**

LIS 693a Library Leadership: The future of librarianship depends on a new generation of leaders to manage and administer the information centers of the new century. This course is designed to help prepare students to fill these positions. It will examine the fundamental elements of leadership, including structural, political, human resource, and symbolic aspects, and how they apply to the library environment. Course content will include study of leaders in; history and literature, feature films and documentaries, case studies, and periodical literature. Students review the relative merits of various leaders through class discussion and writing. Students will learn how to think through complex leadership issues and apply leadership principles to provide maximal outcomes.

Prerequisite: LIS 650 recommended. Contact professor if you have not had this course.

**Program Learning Objectives Addressed**

This course is designed to address the following learning outcomes

SLO 1: Understand, apply and articulate the history, philosophy, principles and ethics of library and information science and the related professions.

- 1a) Apply LIS theory and principles to diverse information contexts
- 1c) Develop and apply critical thinking skills in preparation for professional practice.
- 1d) Craft and articulate a professional identity

SLO 2: Develop, administrate, assess, and advocate for information services by exercising principled communication, teamwork and leadership skills.

- 2a) Demonstrate understand of leadership
- 2e) Demonstrate the ability to advocate effectively for information services.

SLO 4: Evaluate and use the latest information technologies, research findings and methods.

- 4c) Apply current research findings to professional practice

SLO 5: Engage in projects and assignments dealing with multicultural communities and representing diverse point of view.

5b) Demonstrate understanding of the social, cultural, political, and economic context of information services and systems

**Course Learning Objectives**

The students will be able to:

- Articulate philosophy, goals, and objectives of Library leadership
- Analyze complex situations in libraries involving personnel, political, social, and organizational challenges and develop strategies for dealing with them
- Demonstrate achievement of the ALA Standards for

- Standard 4: Advocacy and leadership
- Standard 5: Program management and administration

Synthesize and apply skills, concepts, and theories so that competencies gained can be used in an entry-level professional position.

<b>Grading Scale:</b>	100-98 = A+	97-94 = A	93-90 = A-
	89-87 = B+	86-83 = B	82-80 = B-
	79-77 = C+	76-73 = C	72-70 = C-
	69-67 = D+	66-63 = D	62-60 = D-

**Course Teaching Philosophy:** The teaching philosophy in this course is based on a healthy engagement between instructor and students. The instructor will provide a variety of learning opportunities through readings, videos, discussions, and lectures. He will strive to encourage and mentor students to become thoughtful, reflective, and critical truth seekers who objectively find the leadership elements that best suit their personality and situation.

**Assignments (70%)** There are seven papers that must be completed. Each is approximately 3-5 pages in length. They vary from opinion pieces to reaction papers related to readings or viewing to short research assignments. All must use proper English grammar, spelling and either MLA or Chicago style.

**Class Participation (30%)**

Class participation is represented by active engagement in making meaningful contributions on online conversations, postings, emails, and other communications within the class module environment. I will determine what constitutes meaningful contributions and will make it clear to all students as we work through the course.

Required reading: All reading assignments we will be provided by the instructor. There is no required text but there will be several reading or viewing (moving images) assignments each week.

**Tentative Course Schedule:** July 7 – Aug 14

Week of July 7

Topics 1 - Getting to know you. Essay on your career goals in Librarianship. What does leadership mean to you? What traits do you look for in a good leader? Have you had any leadership roles? What were they and tell me what you liked and did not like about them. Might you consider a leadership role in Librarianship? Why or why not?

Topic 2 – Leadership v.s. Management - Readings, lecture, and discussion focused on the elements of management and leadership. We will examine where these elements are the same, overlap, and differ.

Week of July 14

Topic 1 – Authority. We will examine several types of authority and how they are achieved and maintained. Viewing assignment – Film *A Man for All Seasons* and *Dead Poets Society*

Topic 2 – Decision making

Week of July 21

Topic 1 – Leading change

Topic 2 – Knowledge is power – Viewing “The Passionate Statistician” on the life of Florence Nightingale

Topic 3 – Leaders as Servant, Catalyst, or Coach

Week of July 28

Topic 1 – Leader as Prophet and Artist

Topic 2 – Leading during conflict

Week of Aug 4

Topic 1 – Leader as warrior and philosopher (viewing portions of Henry V)

Topic 2 – Leading from the Middle

Week of Aug 11

Developing your own leadership style. We will review the various leadership styles and techniques examined throughout the course. Student will write a paper discussing the elements that they think will work well for them and explain how they came to that conclusion.

**BN: The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the above schedule as he may discover new and highly relevant information or as student’s learning needs may dictate.**