

## **LIS 693b**

### **Information Resources in the Health Sciences**

Summer Session 2010 – July 26 – August 13

Class meets: Monday-Friday, 9:00-11:40 in Post 318B

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#### **Course Description**

This course will cover the most important healthcare related information resources within a context of providing reference and information services. It will cover primary, secondary and tertiary sources in the following areas: medical, dental, pharmacy, nursing, allied health, consumer health and informatics. We will look at evidence based medical and nursing information resources in terms of when and how to use them most effectively. We will learn about the National Library of Medicine's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) thesaurus and the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS). We will also learn how to compare and evaluate similar resources and how to select the best resources. We will learn how to do efficient and effective searches in the major healthcare information resources.

#### **Core Competences Addressed**

- Resource building: creation, evaluation, selection of collections of information
- Knowledge dissemination: concepts, principles and techniques that facilitate information access for 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 storage, retrieval, dissemination, utilization and evaluation of information sources (6);
- Apply basic competencies and knowledge that are essential for providing, managing, and designing information services and programs in a variety of information environments (3);
- Demonstrate basic competencies in the latest specialized information technologies (11);
- Demonstrate an understanding of the above goals within the perspective of prevailing and emerging technologies (12).

#### **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/slis/students/profexp.html>

### **Course Learning Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- Select the proper resource to find specific information;
- Successfully plan and execute searches in Medline and other relevant bibliographic resources using text words and MeSH;
- Be familiar with the key information resources in medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and consumer health, as well as in other healthcare disciplines;
- Learn how to compare and evaluate healthcare information resources;
- Understand the basic environment of a health sciences reference or information services department;
- Feel confident that they will be able to find healthcare information in a wide range of print and online information resources.

### **Course Philosophy and Teaching Method**

This is an introduction to the range of healthcare reference works and resources available to librarians, healthcare professionals, healthcare consumers and other end users. This course will give students the opportunity to experience an information services environment in a health sciences library. The emphasis is on developing professional knowledge and skills in relation to the types of users and range of resources available.

Classroom time will consist of:

- Lectures
- hands-on exercises
- Discussions of reference questions, search strategies, reading assignments
- Some pre-recorded material
- Guest speakers

### **Research Methods**

- Cognitive walkthrough
- Content analysis
- Heuristic evaluation
- Information retrieval
- Usability study

### **Requirements**

- Readings: Lists will be provided.
- Recommended Text: Huber, Jeffrey T., Jo Ann Boorkman, Jean Blackwell (comp & eds). Introduction to Reference Sources in the Health Sciences, 5<sup>th</sup> ed., New York: Neal-Schuman. 2008.
- Suggested Text: Wood, M. Sandra (ed). Introduction to Health Sciences Librarianship. New York: Haworth. 2008.

### Assignments and Grading

Class discussion on reading assignments: 15%

Class discussion on search strategies: 15%

Searching assignments: 15%

“Speed” searching: 15%

Short evaluation paper: 30%

Grading Scale: 98-100 A+; 93-98 A; 90-92 A-; 80-89 B; 70-79 C; 60-69 D.

### Participation Requirements

All students are expected to complete all the reading assignments and searching assignments on time. Students should be prepared to take an active part in classroom discussions on the readings and on the searching assignments. Insightful questions and comments are encouraged.

### Technology Requirements

Students will be working with online databases; access to the Internet is necessary. Some classroom activities will involve hands-on search exercises.

### Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Assignments/Due Dates
<b>Week 1</b>		
<b>Mon, July 26</b>	<b>Introduction, including the milieu, the terminology, expert searching vs end user searching</b>	
<b>Tues, July 27</b>	<b>National Library of Medicine, Medline, MeSH, UMLS</b>	
<b>Wed, July 28</b>	<b>Medline, PubMed</b>	
<b>Thurs, July 29</b>	<b>Evidence Based Medicine and EBM databases</b>	
<b>Fri, July 30</b>	<b>Other Medical Information resources</b>	
<b>Week 2</b>		
<b>Mon, Aug 2</b>	<b>Evidence Based Nursing Practice, Nursing databases</b>	
<b>Tues, Aug 3</b>	<b>Print sources, dictionaries, handbooks, lab tests</b>	
<b>Wed, Aug 4</b>	<b>Pharmacy and Drug resources</b>	
<b>Thurs, Aug 5</b>	<b>Consumer Health</b>	
<b>Fri, Aug 6</b>	<b>US Govt resources</b>	

<b>Week 3</b>		
<b>Mon, Aug 9</b>	<b>Image databases &amp; other specialized resources</b>	
<b>Tues, Aug 10</b>	<b>Statistical information</b>	
<b>Wed, Aug 11</b>	<b>Informatics, EHR</b>	
<b>Thurs, Aug 12</b>	<b>Evaluation of Healthcare Information resources</b>	
<b>Fri, Aug 13</b>	<b>Panel</b>	