LIBR 530: SUBJECT-BASED INFORMATION SERVICES

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ speaking Musqueam people.

Program: Master of Library and Information Studies
Year: 2018-2019 Winter Session, Term 1
Course Schedule: Thursdays, 14:00-16:50 AM
Location: MCML 358
Instructor: Fereshteh Didegah
Office location: 483 IKBLC
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Office hours: Thursdays, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
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Canvas: http://canvas.ubc.ca

COURSE GOAL

To critically understand the information seeking behaviors and research practices within broad academic subject disciplines and apply this knowledge to the design and provision of subject-based information services for colleges and universities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

• Characterize the information needs and information seeking behavior within broad academic subject disciplines [1.1, 4.1]
• Critically reflect on the structure of a variety of academic subject literatures [1.4]
• Identify and make use of the major print and electronic information sources for subject fields in the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences [1.3]
• Apply user centered-design principles in the creation of a multimedia information service [1.1, 1.3, 2.2, 4.1, 4.2]
• Research and write a persuasive information service proposal [2.1, 5.2]
• Perform a distinct role in a collaborative team-based project [1.3, 3.1]

COURSE TOPICS

• Theoretical perspectives on subject-based services: domain analysis, genre theory, disciplinary epistemologies
• Information seeking behavior and patterns of scholarly communication;
• Subject librarian roles in libraries;
• Major information genres and sources in the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences;

- Search strategies for various subject areas;
- Service delivery options for academic information services;
- User-centered design of face-to-face and digital information services; use of personas
- Implications of emerging technologies on reference and

information services in academic libraries.

PREREQUISITES

MLIS and Dual MAS/MLIS: Completion of MLIS Core or permission of SLAIS Graduate Advisor
MAS: completion of MAS core and permission of the SLAIS Graduate Adviser

Format of the course: Multiple formats will be used including; lectures, seminar style discussions, and small group work. There will be guest speakers visiting class on Week 8 and Week 22.

Required and Recommended Reading: Students will be required to read 3-4 articles or chapters per week as well as completing homework assignments. The list of weekly readings will be available the first day of class, and most articles will be available electronically through the UBC library system or the course Connect website.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Due dates and Weight in relation to final course mark:

Assignment Name	Due Date	Weight
Draft video story board	Week 2 – September 13	N/A
Persona Project, Part 1	Week3- September 20	N/A
Group Video Project	Weeks 7,8, 9 – Final report submission and in-class presentations	30%
Persona Project, Part 2	Week 10 – November 8	30%
Persona Project, Part 3	Week 13 – November 29 Report submission and in-class presentations	30%
Participation		10%

COURSE SCHEDULE [WEEK-BY-WEEK]

Date	Topic/s	Assignments
Week 1 – September 6	Course Introduction: Academic Information Services	

Week 2 – September 13	Academic disciplines and different components of academic communities	Submit your video story board
Week 3 – September 20	Subject-based vs functional structure in libraries	Persona Project Part 1
Week 4 – September 27	**No meeting this week:** *Time to work on subject librarian project*	
Week 5 – October 4	Information literacy, information behavior and scholarly communication I	
Week 6 – October 11	Information literacy, information behavior and scholarly communication II	
Week 7 – October 18	Emerging technologies and information services	Group Video Project presentations A
Week 8 – October 25	Humanities I: Information Behavior & Scholarly Communication	Group Video Project presentations B
Week 9 – November 1	Humanities II: Information landscape and Sources	Group Video Project presentations C
Week 10 – November 8	Sciences I: Information Behavior & Scholarly Communication *(Guest speaker: **Katherine Miller** – Reference librarian at Woodward Library)*	Persona Project Part 2
Week 11 – November 15	Sciences II: Information Landscape and Sources	
Week 12 – November 22	Social Sciences: Information Behavior and Sources *(Guest speaker: **Kimberly Lace Fama** – Reference librarian at David Lam Management Research Library)*	
Week 13 – November 29	Persona Project Presentations	Persona Project in class presentations; Persona Project Part 3 report

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is required in all class meetings. If you know you are going to be absent you must inform me beforehand if at all possible. One (1) excused absence is allowed with prior notification to me. Additional absences will require a note from a health professional or Access and Diversity. Failure to provide this documentation could result in a lower course mark. Any penalties imposed for excessive absences are at the discretion of the instructor.

EVALUATION

All assignments will be marked using the evaluative criteria given on the SLAIS web site.

ACCESS & DIVERSITY

Access & Diversity works with the University to create an inclusive living and learning environment in which all students can thrive. The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Access and Diversity unit: [https://students.ubc.ca/about-student-services/access-diversity]. You must register with the Disability Resource Centre to be granted special accommodations for any on-going conditions.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the course drop date. UBC policy on Religious Holidays: http://equity.ubc.ca/days-of-significance/

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarism

The Faculty of Arts considers plagiarism to be the most serious academic offence that a student can commit. Regardless of whether or not it was committed intentionally, plagiarism has serious academic consequences and can result in expulsion from the university. Plagiarism involves the improper use of somebody else's words or ideas in one's work.

It is your responsibility to make sure you fully understand what plagiarism is. Many students who think they understand plagiarism do in fact commit what UBC calls "reckless plagiarism." Below is an excerpt on reckless plagiarism from UBC Faculty of Arts' leaflet, "Plagiarism Avoided: Taking Responsibility for Your Work," (http://www.arts.ubc.ca/arts-students/plagiarism-avoided.html).

"The bulk of plagiarism falls into this category. Reckless plagiarism is often the result of careless research, poor time management, and a lack of confidence in your own ability to think critically. Examples of reckless plagiarism include:

- Taking phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or statistical findings from a variety of sources and piecing them together into an essay (piecemeal plagiarism);
- Taking the words of another author and failing to note clearly that they are not your own. In other words, you have not put a direct quotation within quotation marks;
- Using statistical findings without acknowledging your source;
- Taking another author's idea, without your own critical analysis, and failing to acknowledge that this idea is not yours;
- Paraphrasing (i.e. rewording or rearranging words so that your work resembles, but does not copy, the original) without acknowledging your source;
- Using footnotes or material quoted in other sources as if they were the results of your own research; and
- Submitting a piece of work with inaccurate text references, sloppy footnotes, or incomplete source (bibliographic) information."

Bear in mind that this is only one example of the different forms of plagiarism. Before preparing for their written assignments, students are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the following source on plagiarism: the Academic Integrity Resource Centre http://help.library.ubc.ca/researching/academic-integrity. Additional information is available on the Connect site http://connect.ubc.ca.

If after reading these materials you still are unsure about how to properly use sources in your work, please ask me for clarification.

Students are held responsible for knowing and following all University regulations regarding academic dishonesty. If a student does not know how to properly cite a source or what constitutes proper use of a source it is the student's personal responsibility to obtain the needed information and to apply it within University guidelines and policies. If evidence of academic dishonesty is found in a course assignment, previously submitted work in this course may be reviewed for possible academic dishonesty and grades modified as appropriate. UBC policy requires that all suspected cases of academic dishonesty must be forwarded to the Dean for possible action.

Other Course Policies as Relevant – The instructor holds regular office hours for drop-in meetings, at the times noted at the top of the syllabus. In addition, queries can be made by email. The instructor will attempt to respond to email within 2 work days, but this may not be possible at all times during the term. If students do not receive replies within that time frame, they are invited to resend the email with a polite reminder.