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

iSchool Mission: Through innovative research, education and design, our mission is to enhance humanity's capacity to engage information in effective, creative and diverse ways.

Course Number and Name – Course Syllabus (3)

Program: MLIS/Dual
Year: 2018-2019
Course Schedule: Friday mornings, 9:00 – 11:50 am
Location: TBD
Instructor: Dr. Heather O'Brien
Office location: IKBLC 486
Office phone: 604-827-5842
Office hours: TBD
E-mail address: h.obrien@ubc.ca
Learning Management Site: http://lthub.ubc.ca/guides/canvas/

Course Goals:

Information interaction is concerned with the intersections of people, information and technology. The emphasis in this course is on people, and how they interact with information and technology in diverse contexts. The course is founded in the belief that the ability to understand the psychology of people, interrogate the research literature in relation to professional application, and conduct quality research in workplace and community settings is pivotal for information professionals working in a variety of institutions. Therefore, the goals of the course are to:

- Explore, integrate and critique relevant theories, models, and research about information interactions in diverse environments and/or with specific groups of people.
- Promote learning and reflection, and an evidence-based orientation to understanding and evaluating user needs.
- Engage in the research process through a small project in order to appreciate the ways in which we can learn from users to improve or reimagine information services, programs and systems.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify, analyze and assess the information needs and practices of individuals, communities and organizations through research literature [1.1].
2. Apply an understanding of human information interaction to how information resources, services and systems are designed, used and evaluated, both within and beyond memory institutions, through in class interactions and assignments [1.1; 2.1].
3. Synthesize the research and professional literature to identify and analyze significant theoretical and practical questions in the area of human information interaction [4.1].
4. Design and execute a small research project informed by relevant theory, methods, and prior research [4.1, 4.2].
5. Exemplify principles of ethical conduct in the design and conduct of a research project that involves human participants [5.1].
6. Help create and contribute to a respectful, collegial learning environment [5.1].
7. Communicate your research project in an oral or poster presentation and journal article-style

report [2.1].

Course Topics:
- Constructs, models, theories, and approaches in human information interaction
- Information needs, seeking and use
- Methods for evaluating human information interaction
- Ethical engagements with research participants, communities, and stakeholder groups
- Information needs, behaviors and seeking of individuals and groups, or within specific settings, as determined by students' interests
- Human information interaction and the design of services, programs and systems

Prerequisites:
MLIS and Dual: Completion of MLIS Core
MAS and graduate students external to the iSchool are welcome in this course; some knowledge of/training in social science research methods is recommended.

Format of the course:
This course will involve instructor- and student-led, class discussions and activities, individual and group work, and instructor- and self-assessment. Each three-hour class period will be organized to allow time for engaging with course topics and working on course assignments, namely the term project.

Required and Recommended Reading:
- Information about Library course reserves and links to course readings may be located in the Canvas course management system; see "Modules" and look for the specific week.

Course Assignments

Assignment Name	Due Date	Weight	Graduate Competencies
1. Participation	Throughout term	**10%**	2.1; 4.1; 5.1
2. Term project**		**90%**	
2.1) Literature review	September 28	15%	1.1; 4.1
2.2) Methods			4.2; 5.1
2.2a) Developing research instruments and protocols, In-class activity	October 12	5%	4.2; 5.1
2.2b) Submit proposed methods protocol for approval	Draft in class October 19; Submit ASAP	10%	
3.3) Mid-term presentation	October 26	15%	1.1; 2.1; 4.1
2.4) Oral or poster presentation of the work	November 30	15%	2.1; 4.1
2.5) Report	December 7	30%	2.1; 4.1

** Depending on class size, this assignment may be done in pairs/as a group.

Course Schedule [week-by-week]:

Date	Lecture Topic & Readings	Assignment Activity & Readings
Sept 7	Introduction to the course and syllabus Review of key concepts in HII	Term project: brainstorming ideas
Sept 14	Models, theories and approaches in HII	Term project: workshopping ideas
Sept 21	Methods and measures for HII, Part 1: experimental	Term project: literature review SOS
Sept 28	Methods and measures for HII, Part 2: field	Activity: Selecting methods for term project
Oct 5	Engaging with research participants and communities	Drafting consent forms and plans for data management

Oct 12	The "human" in HII: affect, behaviour and cognition	Developing research instruments and protocols
Oct 19	Design	Peer workshop of methods protocol
Oct 26	Mid-term project presentations	
Nov 2	Access	Check in: progress on data collection and trouble shooting
Nov 9	Context	Approaches to data analysis
Nov 16	Browsing	Approaches to data analysis
Nov 23	User experience	Q & A on preparing the presentation and report
Nov 30	Term project presentations	

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.
- Up to two excused absences are 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 family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss with the instructor before the course drop date. UBC policy on Religious Holidays: http://equity.ubc.ca/days-of-significance-calendar/

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. The UBC policy on Academic Misconduct is available here: http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/Vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,959.

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." The UBC Learning Commons has a resource page on how to avoid plagiarism, with policies on academic integrity and misconduct found here: [http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/resource-guides/avoid-plagiarism/

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

Other Course Policies as Relevant: All assignments must conform to APA citation style for in-text citations and reference lists.