Valdosta State University
Master of Library and Information Science Program
Spring 2014

Syllabus: MLIS 7000 Foundations of Library and Information Science

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Course Description: Prerequisite: Admission to the MLIS program as a degree-seeking student. An introduction to the library and information science field, its history, and future directions. The focus is on the history, concepts, and technological development of the discipline. Students will gain familiarity with library and information theory, the discipline and sub-disciplines within the information sciences, and ethical practices and standards.

Grade Requirements
All students admitted Fall 2012 and thereafter must earn a grade of "B" or better in these core courses: MLIS 7000, 7100, 7200, 7300, 7700, and 7800, or repeat the course until a grade of "B" is earned.

MLIS Program Objectives (PO)

Graduates of the MLIS Program will:
PO 1. Perform administrative, service, and technical functions of professional practice in libraries and information centers by demonstrating skills in information resources, reference and user services, administration and management, and organization of recorded knowledge and information.

PO 2. Use existing and emerging technologies to meet needs in libraries and information centers.

PO 3. Integrate relevant research to enhance their work in libraries and information centers.

PO 4. Demonstrate professionalism as librarians or information specialists.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

SLO 1. Discuss major topics, concepts, history, and issues of library and information science (LIS) (PO1, PO4)

SLO 2. Explore the functions, service perspective, and ethics of the LIS profession (PO1, PO4)

SLO 3. Explain the role of technology in LIS practice (PO 2)

SLO 4. Describe the similarities and differences among types of libraries and information centers (PO3, PO4)

SLO 5. Use LIS vocabulary appropriately (PO 4)

SLO 6. Analyze trends in LIS job announcements (PO 1)

SLO 7. Examine LIS literature (PO 3)

SLO 8. Discuss the role of library and information services in a diverse global society (PO1, PO 4)

SLO 9. Employ oral and written communication skills (PO 4)

Course format
Students will meet face to face in Valdosta on Friday January 10, 2014 and Saturday January 11, 2014. All other course meetings and activities will be conducted through BlazeView, Valdosta State University's electronic course management system.

Required course textbooks and resources

Rubin R. (2010). *Foundations of Library and Information Science, 3rd ed*. NY: Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association [APA Style Manual], 6th ed. (2009).
   If you have the first printing of the 6th edition, be sure to get the corrections from the APA website.

- Basics of APA style are available at the Purdue University Online Writing Lab [OWL] website: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/ and at http://www.apastyle.org but students will be held to the standards given in the actual APA Style Manual.

Hollister, C.R. (2013). *Handbook of Academic Writing for Librarians.* IL: Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, American Library Association. ISBN: 978-0-8389-8648-6.

Please familiarize yourself with the MLIS policy that prohibits the use of VSU's Interlibrary Loan service for obtaining textbooks at http://www.valdosta.edu/mlis/student_resources/documents/ILL_Textbooks.pdf

Weekly readings from the LIS professional and academic literature as indicated in the detailed course reading list. Articles will be available via GALILEO Scholar, the Odum Library's e-journals collection or on Odum Library course reserve, or links will be provided in the course website.

Assessment Portfolio: All students are **REQUIRED to purchase** access to the MLIS Program technology-driven assessment system, LiveText.com The system will be used throughout your professional program and is introduced in this course.

Subscribe to American Libraries Direct listserv:
American Libraries Direct (AL Direct): An electronic newsletter sent by e-mail every Wednesday to all American Library Association individual members. *AL Direct* calls attention to new items on the ALA website (including *American Libraries* news stories, press releases and other news from ALA divisions and offices, and a calendar of events), as well as practical, informative, and entertaining library-related news and tidbits found elsewhere online. Join the ALA/GLA at the student rate and then sign up for *AL Direct*: http://www.americanlibrariesmagazine.org/aldirect

ASSIGNMENTS: brief descriptions, full details are available in the Assignments module of the course website.

Discussion board participation – weekly topics = 20 points
- Successful completion of this assignment is necessary to fulfill requirements for this course and indicates partial accomplishment of MLIS Program-level student learning outcomes. Your finished assignment must be uploaded to the designated online portal.

Library Tour Report = 10 points
- Interview a working librarian and tour the library where the librarian works, then document your interview and tour in a short essay.

Job Ad Analysis = 10 points
- For the period of one month, monitor two of the sources of LIS job announcements and analyze your findings.

LIS Journals Analysis = 15 points
- Analyze recent print or digital issues of three LIS journals using the questions given in the assignment.
- Successful completion of this assignment is necessary to fulfill requirements for this course and indicates partial accomplishment of MLIS Program-level student learning outcomes. Your finished assignment must be uploaded to the designated online portal.

Ethics and Standards Group Project =15 points
- Work in groups to explore the ethics of one particular professional group within the LIS professions. Write and submit a group paper.
- Successful completion of this assignment is necessary to fulfill requirements for this course and indicates partial accomplishment of MLIS Program-level student learning outcomes. Your finished assignment must be uploaded to the designated online portal.

Literature Review = 25 points total (part 1 = 5 points, part 2 = 20 points)
- Investigate some aspect of libraries, information studies, or the information professions of personal interest and prepare a 2500 – 3000 word literature review in which you present current thinking as documented in the published literature on your topic.

Portfolio Preparation = 5 points
- Create a professional electronic portfolio that you will build throughout your time at VSU and submit as a requirement of MLIS 7800 at the end of your studies

Course Grades
Students can earn a maximum of 100 points in this course as indicated above. Course grades will be awarded as follows:
- A: 90 – 100 points
- B: 80 – 89 points
- C: 70 – 79 points
- D: 60 – 69 points
- F: fewer than 60 points.

NO grade below a C will be credited toward a VSU graduate degree. To be eligible to receive an A in the course a student must complete every assignment. All students admitted Fall 2012 and thereafter must earn a grade of "B" or better in these core courses: MLIS 7000, 7100, 7200, 7300, 7700, and 7800, or repeat the course until a grade of "B" is earned.

Reminder: MLIS 7000 is a core course, and all students admitted in Fall 2012 or thereafter must earn a grade of "B" or better in this course in order to receive credit for the course. Those same students must successfully complete each assignment marked as "necessary to fulfill requirements for this course" in order to complete the course and receive a grade.

An overall grade of zero can be assigned to an entire paper or project if the instructor determines that its contents, or parts of its contents, were completed by a second party or copied into a paper or project from a source without proper citation. **Noncompliance with rules on appropriate use of resources will result in zero credit for those parts of the assignment affected**. If you are unsure about the parameters of an assignment, ask for clarification.

COURSE POLICIES

General Assumptions: Excluding the face to face weekend content, the course is designed for the online learning environment and all course activities will take place inside the course website in BlazeView or on your own in the environment indicated in the assignment descriptions. Distance learning support is available from VSU. Please see: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/elearning/blazeview-d2l.php

All required readings are summarized on the course calendar and listed in full on the reading list and in the weekly folders. All readings other than the textbook chapters are accessible through GALILEO **or** Valdosta State University's Odum Library online journal access **or** through public access websites **or** through Odum Library course e-reserves **or** will be provided inside the course website in pdf format.

Students are expected to be able to obtain materials from GALILEO and the Odum Library's electronic collections and resources or their equivalents as part of their successful participation in this course. An online services guide for distance education students is on the Odum Library web site at http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/library/services/distance-education.php Students should feel free to ask a local librarian for help learning to navigate GALILEO.

Attendance: Attendance is required at the face to face meeting. Other than during the face to face meeting, course content is delivered asynchronously according to the course calendar. It is the student's responsibility to follow the course calendar and participate via BlazeView as indicated at the appropriate times. It is in the student's best interest to log into the BlazeView course delivery system daily to check for announcements and e-mail messages related to the course.

Communication: The course Faculty Office discussion board will be available for the duration of the semester. Please post course-related questions that may be relevant to your classmates on the discussion board. Please read the Faculty Office discussion board regularly. If you have a personal question please send it to the instructor via

BlazeView course e-mail. If you would like to speak with the instructor by telephone please ask for an appointment via e-mail so a mutually appropriate time can be determined. If you are in Valdosta and would like to meet face to face please send a message via e-mail to arrange a time. If I am on campus and my office door is open please feel free to come in.

Submitting written assignments: All written work must be submitted as attachments to the relevant assignment dropbox in the BlazeView course website using Word or rtf formats (.doc, .docx, .rtf suffixes only). If you use any word processing program other than Microsoft Word, please save your document in Rich Text Format (rtf). **All written work file names should begin with your last name and first initial and include the assignment name as the file name, for example: MostL_tour.docx**

The university's Information Technology department provides step-by-step guides on how to use VSU's e-mail system and other resources. The IT Help Desk is at http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/its/css/helpdesk/
Their telephone hotline is 229-245-4357.

Late work: All course work is due inside BlazeView on the date and time indicated on the course calendar. Any exceptions without penalties must be negotiated in advance. Technological crises are not an acceptable excuse for submitting work late unless BlazeView is down at the time the work is due.

A grace period of 24 hours is offered without penalty. After 24 hours 20% of the possible grade will be deducted from the student's score for every additional 24 hours or increment thereof that the work is late up until the day the BlazeView assignment submission window closes. If you need additional time to work on an assignment or if you have a scheduling conflict please contact your instructor BEFORE the assignment is due to discuss your situation. The instructor WILL NOT accept work after the assignment submission window closes without prior consent.

University Policies

Academic Honesty at Valdosta State University: "Valdosta State University expects that graduate students will pursue their academic endeavors and conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. All work that a student presents to satisfy course requirements should represent his or her own efforts, including appropriate use and acknowledgement of external sources. Specific regulations related to student conduct and behaviors are contained in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct." See also: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/academic-honesty-policies-and-procedures.php

It is your responsibility to make sure you understand how to avoid breeches of academic integrity. If you are unsure about the parameters of an assignment, ask for clarification. If you need help with citations and research resources and techniques, the university provides extensive resources for students. For help please start at the Odum Library's

"how to" page: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/library/tutorials/citing-your-sources/welcome.php

By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to TurnItIn or SafeAssign, a tool within BlazeVIEW**.** For more information on the use of TurnItIn or SafeAssign at VSU see http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/turnitin-for-students.php http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/safeassign-for-students.php

Accommodations statement: From VSU's Access Office: Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871 (VP) and 229-219-1348 (TTY). For more information, please visit http://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/ or email: access@valdosta.edu.

If you have a documented disability please contact the Access Office. Once your request for accommodation is submitted please contact the instructor to discuss accommodations or modifications of course content and delivery.

Student Conduct: All interactions related to this class are to be conducted respectfully and professionally whether during face to face meetings, online interactions, small group work, e-mail or telephone communication according to the Student Code of Conduct as presented in the Valdosta State University Student Handbook, beginning on page 65: http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/documents/student-handbook.pdf

Student Success Center: http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/student-success-center/ provides free tutoring and support for distance learning students at http://valdosta.askonline.net

Student Agreement: Enrollment in this class signifies that you have agreed to abide by and adhere to the policies and regulations specified above. It is understood that the instructor may adapt or change this syllabus and the assignments contained within it according to circumstances that may arise during the course of the semester.