

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE
MLIS 7580 Digital Libraries
Spring 2010 - Syllabus
Three Credit Hours

Instructor:

Fatih Oguz

Odum Library -1500 N. Patterson Street

Valdosta, GA 31698-0150

Office Hours: by appointment, in person or online

Phone: (229) 245- 3715

Fax: (229) 259- 5055

E-mail: foguz@valdosta.edu

Course Description:

Prerequisite or corequisite: MLIS 7000 or consent of the instructor. Current trends in digital libraries research and practice. The impact of digital libraries on society will be emphasized.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Explain basic concepts of digital libraries
- Discuss digitization, preservation, and dissemination of digital content
- Describe processes to develop a digital library system
- Develop metadata guidelines for digital collections
- Recognize current trends in digital library technologies and standards
- Assess digital library technologies and standards

Class Activities:

Class activities include a set of readings, assignments, online discussions, and digital collection development projects. Students will complete several assignments that provide an opportunity to demonstrate familiarity with the course content. Assignments will provide students with conceptual and practical understanding of digital libraries and their impact on society and traditional libraries. Students should participate in online meetings to discuss and share their opinions of the week's topics, assignments, and readings. The purpose of the digital collection development projects is to allow students to demonstrate their understanding of digitization, preservation, and dissemination of digital material covered in the class by designing and developing digital image and text collections in a digital library application or creating collections for a digital library application that can handle real-world data and address metadata management issues. This semester the class will use Omeka (<http://www.omeka.org>), a free and open source collections based web-based publishing platform, as a digital library platform to create and manage digital collections. A project report should document the process of content production from

digitization and development of metadata guidelines to dissemination, and brief evaluation of the project.

Textbook:

There is no required textbook for the class.

Suggested Reading:

- Lesk, M. (2005). *Understanding Digital Libraries* (2nd ed). Morgan Kaufmann Publisher. ISBN: 978-1558609242
- Arms, W. Y. (2001). *Digital Libraries*. MIT Press. ISBN: 978-0262511278
Available online at <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/wya/diglib/MS1999/index.html>

Grading:

Grades will be calculated as follows:

- Participation (readings & discussions): 20 pts
- Discussion Moderation: 10 pts
- Assignments: 6 +12 +12 = 30 pts
- Digital Library Project: 40 pts

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- A – 90-100
- B – 80-89
- C – 70-79
- D – 60-69
- F – 0- 59

Assignment Submission:

- Deadlines for each graded activity are clearly stated on the MLIS 7580 Course Calendar posted on the course home page on BlazeView.
- There is a one (1) day grace period for each graded activity after its original due date.
- Missing a deadline for any graded activity may result in a reduction in grade (i.e., 5% deduction from the original mark for each day after 1-day grace period) unless a mutually acceptable alternative is arranged with the instructor.
- All assignments must be submitted via assignment drop box on BlazeView.

Course requirements:**Participation (20 pts)**

- The course is designed for online delivery.
- Students should participate in online meetings to discuss and share their opinions of the week's topics, assignments, and readings.
- Date and time information for online meetings will be made available on BlazeView.
- All questions regarding content, assignments, and readings should be posted to class discussion board on BlazeView.
- There are also required, supplemental readings to cover broad areas of digital libraries planning and design, collection development and digitization, social, cultural, and policy issues, and current trends.
- Students must post their views about each article at designated areas on class message board for discussion.

Discussion Moderation (10 pts)

- Students will be assigned by the instructor to moderate several discussions on class discussion board on weekly reading material. A moderator is expected to initiate the discussion by posing questions or issues raised in the article, monitor the discussion thread, and respond to answers, questions, or feedback posted by other students.

Assignments (30 pts)

- Students will complete four assignments that provide an opportunity to demonstrate familiarity with the course content.
- Collaboration on homework assignments is encouraged (keep in mind that collaborative work on assignments doesn't mean that one can plagiarize another person's work).
- You may consult outside reference materials, other students, or the instructor. However, all of your solutions should reflect your understanding of the subject matter at the time of writing.
- Assignments will provide students with conceptual and practical understanding of digital libraries.

Digital Library Project (40 pts)

- The class will build VSU Centennial Digital Library
- Materials (text, video, images) for collections in digital format will be provided by the instructor.
- An Omeka installation will be provided by the instructor.

Technological Requirements:

All class materials will be placed on a password-protected Web site using the BlazeVIEW course management program. If you are a new to BlazeVIEW, go to the BlazeVIEW for Students page at <http://www.valdosta.edu/vista/students.shtml> . Then return to the BlazeVIEW page and login using your BlazeNet email ID and password. To meet all class requirements, you should also be prepared to: (1) check the BlazeVIEW course homepage several times a week, sometimes daily, if a course discussion is in progress; (2) locate additional course readings using the GALILEO databases and download or print these out (this may require a PDF reader application on your computer); and (3) keep electronic backup copies of each assignment and project you submit.

All assignments must be submitted using a program compatible with VSU supported products. MS Office 2007 compatible formats including Open Office, Rich Text Format, ASCII Text (.txt), and PDF are preferred file formats for assignments. Use MS Power Point (.ppt) format for Wimba Classroom presentations. At this time MS PowerPoint 2007 format (.pptx) is not compatible with Wimba Classroom.

Online meetings will be held in Wimba Classroom, a web-conferencing tool available in BlazeView. Broadband connection is preferred (min. 56K dial-up connection is required) and all students must have a headset (w/ microphone) to participate in discussions and make presentations. See [MLIS Technology Requirements](#) page for more information.

As this is an online course that also focuses its attention on online information services, students must have almost daily access to the Internet. That access will use email and the web (through the student's browser) for class-related communication.

Course communications will use . . .

1. BlazeView email system and discussion board are official means of communication in this class. In addition, VSU email system may be used alternatively in case BlazeView is inaccessible.
2. A BlazeView website, used by the instructor to make links available for each unit of the topical units

Distance Learning Support:

To help address concerns of off-campus and online students, the library maintains the Library Services and Resources for Distance Education Student webpage at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/services/distancestudents.shtml> .

If at any time you have general questions about the library or specific questions about library resources, please call the Odum Library Reference Desk at (229) 333-7149 or email at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/forms/disted.php> . Chat reference is available at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/ask.shtml> .

VSU Policies:

Please become aware of and be guided by these VSU policies.

- Access Office for Students with Disabilities: <http://www.valdosta.edu/access/>
- Academic Dishonesty, p. 269 of Graduate Catalog, 2008/09:
<http://www.valdosta.edu/catalog/0809/grad/documents/grad266-296.pdf>
- Student Code of Conduct, p. 56:
<http://www.valdosta.edu/studentaffairs/StudentHandbook.shtml>
- Equal Opportunity Statement: <http://www.valdosta.edu/eopma/aboutus/eos.shtml>
- Sexual Harassment: <http://www.valdosta.edu/legal/shp.shtml>

Student Agreement:

Enrollment in this class signifies that the student has 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.