July 2010

LIBR 200 Summer 2010

Rob Morrison
National-Louis University

LIBR 200 Digital Information Literacy
National-Louis University
SYLLABUS

Meeting Dates & Location:
July 19 through August 8, 2010. This course meets entirely online through BlackBoard.

Instructors:

Deana Greenfield

Instructor

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Assistant Professor

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Course Description:
This course introduces students to the concepts and competencies of digital information literacy, which include the ability to access, use, organize, create, integrate, disseminate, synthesize and evaluate information in digital formats. The "digitally information literate" student will be proficient in the effective use of information in digital formats as applied in academic programs, professional work, and lifelong learning.

Major Topics:
- The influence of technology on information
- Accessing digital information
- Evaluating sources in the digital age

Course Objectives:
Students will learn how information is influenced by technology in order to understand, use, and create information in their academic program, career, and as lifelong learners. Students will enhance their learning by using technology to expand their access to digital information.

By the end of this course, the digitally information literate learner will:
- Understand how digital technologies shape information
- Navigate complex digital domains
- Apply knowledge and skills to current digital tools
- Apply flexible strategies for finding, using, and creating digital information

Materials:
No textbook is required for this course. Readings will be available online through library article databases or freely on the Web.

Requirements:
1. Participate in online discussions.
2. Complete online assignments. *Assignments turned in late will have points deducted.*
3. Complete final research project. *Projects turned in late will have points deducted.*

Grading:

Activity	Points
Weekly Discussion Posts, Activities, and Participation	
Week One: Discussion of Readings & Participation	20
Week Two: Discussion, Activities, & Participation	30
Week Three Discussion, Activities, & Participation	20
Final Project: Annotated Bibliography	30
TOTAL POINTS	100

Final grades will be based on the following scale:

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	59 and below

ADA Statement:
National-Louis University seeks to ensure that its programs are accessible to all persons. Students in need of special assistance or an accommodation regarding any of the course requirements as outlined in this syllabus, the course objectives and/or course evaluation and assessment criteria, are advised to notify me within the first two weeks of class. We will meet privately to discuss resolution of your issue, which may or may not include an appropriate referral (e.g. a Writing specialist, the Academic Accommodations Coordinator, the Director of Diversity or the Office of Student Affairs). Confidentiality will be maintained regarding your special needs.

Academic Policy Statement
With respect to the academic honesty of students, it is expected that all material submitted as part of any class exercise, in or out of class, is the actual work of the student whose name appears on the material or is properly documented otherwise. The concept of academic honesty includes plagiarism as well as receiving and/or giving improper assistance and other forms of cheating on coursework. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action and may be dismissed from the University.

Faculty has the right to analyze and evaluate students' course work. Students may be asked to submit their papers electronically to a third-party plagiarism detection service. Students who are asked to submit their papers, and refuse, must provide proof for every cited work comprising the cover page and first cited page for each source listed in the bibliography. When evidence of academic dishonesty is discovered, an established procedure of resolution will be activated to bring the matter to closure.

The Policy on Academic Honesty is in the Student Guidebook as a hard copy and online at http://www.nl.edu/StudentServices/studentaffairs/StudentHandbook/.

For resources on how to cite properly and avoid plagiarism, go to NLU's Center for Academic Development at http://www.nl.edu/centers/cad/resources/index.cfm and the NLU Library at http://www.nl.edu/library/.

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COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE: The Impact of Technology on Information

- Complete the Course Orientation – including NLU Library Orientation
- Introduce yourself to the class and your instructors by posting in the Introductions board.
- Week one required readings listed below.
- Post to Weekly Discussion Board – reactions & discussions of readings (20 pts). Due Sunday, July 25th, at midnight

Readings (available in BlackBoard or through the NLU Library)
- o Carr, N. (July/August 2009).Is Google making us stupid? *The Atlantic*. Retrieved 28 August 2009 from http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200807/google
- o Batson, T. (2 March 2009). Response to Nicholas Carr's 'Is Google making us stupid?' *Campus Technology.* Retrieved 28 August 2009 from http://www.campustechnology.com/Articles/2009/03/18/Response-to-Nicholas-Carr-Question-Is-Google-Making-Us-Stupid.aspx
- o Starr, P. (4 March 2009). Goodbye to the age of newspapers (Hello to a new era of corruption). *The New Republic.* Retrieved 30 July 2009 from http://www.tnr.com/article/goodbye-the-age-newspapers-hello-new-era-corruption

WEEK TWO: Accessing Digital Information

- Week two required readings listed below.
- Post to Weekly Discussion Board – discussion and activities (30 pts). Due Sunday, Aug. 1st, at midnight.
  - o Database evaluation
  - o Web 2.0 in the Business World
  - o Twitter business activity
- Read/start Final Research Assignment: Company Profile – An Annotated Bibliography. Due Aug. 8th, at midnight.

Readings/Tutorials (available in BlackBoard or through the NLU Library)
- o Watch the "Searching the Wall Street Journal in ABI/Inform" tutorial.
- o Watch the "Searching for Information with Hoover's" tutorial
- o Watch the "Searching for Articles in EBSCOHost" tutorial.
- o Hof, R. D. (2009, August). Betting on the real-time web. *Business Week*, (4143), 46-48. Retrieved August 26, 2009, from http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/09_33/b4143046834887.htm
- o Twitter & Milstein, S. Twitter 101 for business: A special guide. Retrieved September 4, 2009, http://business.twitter.com/twitter101
- o Optional Web 2.0 YouTube videos

WEEK THREE: Evaluating Digital Information
- Week three required readings listed below.
- Post to Weekly Discussion Board – discussion and activities (20 pts). **Due Saturday, Aug. 7th, at noon.**
    - Annotations Practice
    - Wikipedia Exercise
- Finish Final Research Assignment: Company Profile – An Annotated Bibliography (30 pts). Due Sunday, Aug. 8th, at midnight.

Readings/Tutorials (available in BlackBoard or through the NLU Library)

  - UNC University Libraries (2008). Evaluating information tutorial. http://www.lib.unc.edu/instruct/evaluate/introduction/
  - University of Maryland Libraries (2008). Primary, secondary, and tertiary sources. http://www.lib.umd.edu/guides/primary-sources.html
  - Read, B. (27 October 2006). "Can Wikipedia ever make the grade?" *The Chronicle of Higher Education.* 53 (10), A31. http://chronicle.com.proxy.nl.edu/article/Can-Wikipedia-Ever-Make-the/26960/. NOTE: Also available through NLU Library's Web site: Articles > A-Z List of Databases > Chronicle of Higher Education. Search for "Can Wikipedia Ever Make the Grade". *Must login through My NLU Portal to access the library's databases.*
  - Waters, N. (2007). Why you can't cite Wikipedia in my class. *Communications of the ACM*, 50(9), 15-17. Retrieved May 1, 2009. http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/teaching/courses/irm/p15-waters.pdf . NOTE: Also available through NLU Library's Web site: Articles > A-Z List of Databases > Business Source Elite. *Must login through My NLU Portal to access the library's databases.*
  - Cohen, N. (25 August 2009) Wikipedia to limit changes to articles on people. *The New York Times*. Retrieved August 26, 2009, from http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/25/technology/internet/25wikipedia.html