

Faculty of Information and Media Studies
LIS 9001 – Perspectives on Library and Information Science
Fall 2019

Course Information

Time: Wednesdays, 9:00am-11:50am
Place: Room 3220, FIMS and Nursing Building
Course section: 001

Instructor Information

Instructor: Roger Chabot, MLIS, PhD
Email: rchabot2@uwo.ca
Telephone: 519-661-2111, ext. 84896
Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant:
Email:

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the philosophy and theory which underpins the profession of librarianship and the academic discipline of Library and Information Science (LIS). The first half of the course will introduce the principles and values of librarianship and LIS while the second will take a critical approach to the social, political, economic, cultural, historical, and intellectual contexts of information and information professions.

Course Objectives

Relationship to MLIS Program-Level Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of readings, assignments, and class participation, students will be able to:

1. Value and support critical engagement with issues and practices in LIS and related fields through diverse approaches to independent ongoing learning (Outcome 1).
2. Explain, analyse and interpret professional and scholarly literature, research data and information resources to articulate their implications for LIS and related fields of knowledge and practice. (Outcome 2)

3. Exercise and enact the values and principles of the field and its specialisations with an awareness of overarching social responsibility associated with progressive public service for the public good. (Outcome 3)
4. Relate the practices and roles of individual librarians and information professionals to broader organizational, professional, political, economic, social and technological contexts. (Outcome 5)

Course Requirements

To complete this course, you must attend all classes, read the required readings, and do the following assignments:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------------|
| 1. Short Paper | 15% | Due Sept. 18 |
| 2. Essay #1 | 20% | Due Oct. 5 |
| 3. Essay #2 | 25% | Due Nov. 13 |
| 4. Team Presentation | 25% | Due Dec. 5 or Dec. 11 |
| 5. Participation | 15% | Ongoing |

Course Materials

All readings (outlined below) are available through the Western Libraries catalogue and discovery tool (<http://lib.uwo.ca>) or via the Course Readings section of the course's OWL site.

Course Policies

Attendance: As there are generally no formal written examinations in the MLIS program, attendance at and participation in classes are essential parts of the learning experience and provides part of the basis for academic assessment of a student's knowledge. Students should therefore notify the instructor if they need to be absent from class. If the situation involves more than one absence, particularly in more than one course, the student should also contact Brandi Borman (bborman@uwo.ca). Attendance requirements also include punctual arrival at classes. Late arrivals are discourteous, disruptive and unprofessional. Missing a class, or repeated late arrivals of 10 minutes or more, may require the student to complete a special assignment to verify coverage of the course material.

Statement on Academic Offences: Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/universec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. The University's plagiarism policy requires instructors to remind students that, "Students must write their assignments and essays in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage of text

from another author, they must acknowledge their debt by using quotation marks when quoting directly from another work and by proper referencing such as footnotes or in-text citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offences Policy in the Western Academic Calendar)". See the MLIS student handbook for more details.

Support Services: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Communication: I check my email regularly throughout the day and will usually respond within a 24-hour period. Please put "9001" somewhere in the subject line so that I can effectively triage my inbox. Responses may be slower on weekends. Please plan your work ahead, as I may be unable to respond to questions about assignments or exams immediately before deadlines. Questions that may take some time to answer are best addressed face-to-face by making an appointment to see me.

Late assignments will be subject to a penalty of 5% per day, or part thereof, unless permission is requested in advance of the due date or appropriate documentation is provided.

Potentially Re-Traumatizing Subjects: Some of the topics and readings for this course may deal with difficult subjects such as forceful or inappropriate uses of power. I have done my best to provide an exhaustive list of topics and readings for students to investigate beforehand. If the student has a previous, or continuing, history of emotional trauma and think some subjects may be difficult for them, please prepare ahead to address these concerns. Please come speak to me or your academic advisor if you have any concerns about your mental health in regard to course content and I will do my best to accommodate. And of course, please consult the appropriate resources if you require ongoing medical accommodations or support (see below).