

**LIS 9003 INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES**  
**MLIS Program, Faculty of Information & Media Studies, Western University**  
**Winter 2019**

**1. Course Information**

Time: Wednesdays 6:30 – 9:20 pm, 9 January – 10 April 2019

Location: FNB 2230

OWL site: TBA

**2. Instructor Information**

Instructor: Dr. Paulette Rothbauer, Associate Professor

Phone: (519) 661-2111 ext. 88512

Email: prothba2@uwo.ca

Office: FNB 4052 Office hours: by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Nafiz Shuva, LIS Phd Candidate

Email: nshuva@uwo.ca

**3. Course Description**

Theory and practice of finding and using basic information sources and question negotiating techniques in information providing contexts, including libraries and information centres. Appropriate and effective ways of providing personal assistance to users in pursuit of information. Introduction to the principles and practices of searching.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. To introduce students to the theory and practice of using basic information sources in information providing contexts, including libraries and information centres;
2. To introduce students to appropriate and effective ways of helping both individuals and groups with their information needs by providing personal assistance to users and by giving instructional presentations to groups;
3. To provide students with an opportunity to practice the techniques of negotiating questions, finding appropriate sources, and answering questions;
4. To introduce students to the principles and practices of searching various types of resources.

**COURSE-LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

1. apply a critical awareness of professional values, standards and ethics in the context of reference services (Program-level learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 5);
2. prioritize from among a wide range of techniques to assess, recommend and create access to information in a variety of formats (Program-level learning outcomes 2, 4, 6, 8)
3. define the needs of particular user groups and develop collections, services, programs and policies to meet these needs (Program-level learning outcomes 3, 5, 8, 9);
4. prepare, write and deliver effective professional reports and presentations, independently and/or cooperatively with others (Program-level learning outcomes 4, 7, 9).

**Course Requirements**

Students are required to attend all classes and come prepared having read, browsed, viewed or listened to assigned course materials. In addition to the course assignments, and in-class exercises, short online posts are required for some classes and will contribute to the participation grade.

Attendance is mandatory. [Please see the section on attendance in the MLIS Graduate Handbook.](#)

Grading follows the [Grading Guidelines published in the MLIS Graduate Student Handbook.](#)

Late assignments – I will accept late assignments\* no questions asked, no penalty. **After one day, beginning at 6:30 pm on Thursdays, a late penalty of 5% per day will be applied.** I also reserve the right to assign a grade without comments on assignments that are more than 2 days late. Penalties do not apply to extensions on documented compassionate or medical grounds. **Please talk to me if you are struggling to meet a deadline!**

*\* except for any team assignments and in-class assignments which must be submitted on time*

#### 4. Course Materials

All required readings are on reserve in the GRC or are available electronically through Western Libraries. Additional web-accessible materials will be assigned from time to time. You may be required to research and use additional library materials for your assignments including materials that may only be available in hardcopies in the FIMS Graduate Library.

#### 5. Methods of Evaluation (Tentative)

To complete this course you must do the following assignments:

Assignment	Weight	Due Dates
Participation and Preparation	10%	Throughout term: specific requirements/exercises from week to week including facilitation of class discussion on assigned reading
FIMS Graduate Library “Search” Workshops	15%	You must attend all 5 workshops. All workshops begin at 6:30 pm.
Participation, search exercises, searching diary		January 9 – Weldon Library tour & WL catalogue * <b>at Weldon Library</b> January 16 – Library Lit & Lisa January 23 – Ulrich’s February 6 – Google Scholar February 13 – Scopus and Web of Science  Searching Diary, due March 6, class 8 = 15%
Resource Tutorial (small group assignment and short presentation)	30%	Tutorial plan and supporting documentation (15%) 15-minute team presentation to class (15%) due 13 March – 4 April, classes 9-12
Consultation/reference question	20%	due April 10, class 13
Information seeking practices – research paper	25%	due February 6, class 5

#### 6. Statement on Academic Offences

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 website:  
[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_grad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf)

See also the [section on Academic Offences in the MLIS Student Handbook](#).

#### 7. Support Services

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Western’s “Health and Wellness” at [https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.