

COURSE INFORMATION

Course: LIS 9670: Introduction to Archives Administration

Time: Summer term 2020, Thursdays (7 May to 6 August)

Location: Online Course – see <http://publish.uwo.ca/~dspanner/LIS9670/index.htm>

Calendar of Topics

Week 1. May 7	Course Intro: Review of Course Outline, Historical Overview, Types, the Archival Image, and Terminology
Week 2. May 14	Archival Principles, Values, and the Relationship to Heritage and Information Disciplines
Week 3. May 21	Archival Records and Uses – Understanding your Holdings
Week 4. May 28	Appraisal and Acquisition - Principles and Procedures
June 1-5	Research Week
Week 5. June 11	Arrangement - Principles and Procedures
Week 6. June 18	Description - Principles and Procedures
Week 7. June 25	Access and Reference - Principles and Procedures
Week 8. July 2	Facilities Management
Week 9. July 9	Traditional Outreach
Week 10. July 16	Digital Outreach
Week 11. July 23	Conservation and Preservation: Environmental Elements and Caring for Analog Materials
Week 12. July 30	Conservation and Preservation: Digital Media and General Disaster Planning
Week 13. August 6	Future Issues

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is not an attempt to deliver "online learning" in the fullest sense. To do so would take far more time and training than this pandemic emergency would allow. Rather, this is "emergency online delivery". As such, this course will take an asynchronous approach utilizing this course website in tandem with audio lectures delivered via OWL.

The course is designed to introduce students to the professional principles and practices that guide professional archival work. Class sessions will primarily be lecture driven. Weekly readings will acquaint students with the scholarly and professional literature. Students will gain a solid grounding in the history of the profession, an understanding of basic archival terminology, principles, theory, as well as an appreciation of current

practices and how digital technologies have impacted both archival management and public programming.

Course Objectives

1. To understand the nature of archival documents, as recorded information;
2. To understand the principles of archival science in contrast to those of related disciplines;
3. To explore how archivists acquire, appraise, arrange, describe, preserve and promote archival materials and make them available for use;
4. To consider the management issues involved in implementing archival principles and practices in an institution.

Course Requirements and Grading

Readings: There are no required texts, but there will be reading assignments as indicated on the course schedule. Readings and lecture materials will be made available via OWL.

Required Assignments: All students will write one *essay* (13-15 pages double spaced) on a topic chosen from a list distributed by the instructor in the first week of class. Each student will be given two practical exercises (one on appraisal, the other on arrangement) over the course of the term. Students will also submit a written evaluation/critique (8-10 pages double spaced) of a digital resource (i.e. digital classroom, digital exhibit) utilizing their knowledge of such outreach instruments as found in the literature. Finally, participation in the course will be measured from responses to five questions based on either the lecture or the assigned readings. The grade breakdown is as follows:

	Number	Unit Value	Total
Essay	1	40%	40%
Digital Resource Evaluation	1	20%	20%
Exercises	2	15%	30%
Participation	5	2%	10%
Total		n/a	100%

COURSE MATERIALS

There are no required textbooks to be purchased for this course. All required reading materials will be made available online via OWL. The following is a listing of required readings broken down by scheduled classes:

Week 1. Thursday, May 7

Introductions

"What are Archives" in Laura A. Millar, Archives: Principles and Practices. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 1-26. **Available on OWL**

Nesmith, Tom. "What's History Got to Do with It?: Reconsidering the Place of Historical Knowledge in Archival Work." *Archivaria* 57 (Spring, 2004): pp. 1-27. Also found on-line at <https://archivaria-ca.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/index.php/archivaria/article/view/12450>

Week 2. Thursday, May 14

Archival Principles, Values, and the Relationship to Heritage and Information Disciplines

Cook, Terry. "What is Past is Prologue: A History of Archival Ideas Since 1898, and the Future Paradigm Shift." *Archivaria* 43 (Spring 1997). Also found on-line at <https://archivaria-ca.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/index.php/archivaria/article/view/12175>

"Provenance, Original Order and Respect des fonds" in Laura A. Millar, Archives: Principles and Practices. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 97-114. **Available on OWL**

Week 3. Thursday, May 21

Archival Records and Uses - Understanding Your Holdings

Cook, Terry. 1997. "Archives, Evidence, and Memory: Thoughts on a Divided Tradition". Review of The Memory of the Modern. *Archival Issues* 22 (2). Midwest Archives Conference: 177-82. Available online via JSTOR https://www-jstor-org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/stable/41101980?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

Week 4. Thursday, May 28

Acquisition and Appraisal - Principles and Procedures

"Appraising and Acquiring Archives" in Laura A. Millar, Archives: Principles and Practices. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 115-144. **Available on OWL**

Bailey, Catherine. "From the Top Down: The Practice of Macro-Appraisal." *Archivaria* 43 (Spring 1997), pp.89-128. Available online via <https://archivaria-ca.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/index.php/archivaria/article/view/12177>

Huth, Geoff. "Appraising Digital Records (Module 14)" in Michael Shallcross and Christopher Prom, eds., *Appraisal and Acquisition Strategies*. (Chicago: SAA, 2016), pp. 10-48

RESEARCH WEEK, June 1-5

Week 5. Thursday, June 11

Arrangement - Principles and Procedures

"Arranging and Describing Archives" in Laura A. Millar, *Archives: Principles and Practices*. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 145-157 [**Arrangement**]. **Available on OWL**

Krawczyk, Bob. "Cross Reference Heaven: The Abandonment of the Fonds as the Primary Level of Arrangement for Ontario Government Records." *Archivaria* 48 (Fall 1999), pp. 131-153. Available online via <https://archivaria-ca.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/index.php/archivaria/article/view/12720>

Week 6. Thursday, June 18

Description - Principles and Procedures

"Arranging and Describing Archives" in Laura A. Millar, *Archives: Principles and Practices*. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 157-182 [**Description**]. **Available on OWL**

Schaefer, Sibyl and Janet M. Bunde. "Standards for Archival Description (Module 1)" in Christopher Prom and Thomas J. Frusciano, eds., *Archival Arrangement and Description*. (Chicago: SAA, 2013), pp.12-54.

Week 7. Thursday, June 25

Access & Reference - Principles and Procedures

"Making Archives Available" in Laura A. Millar, *Archives: Principles and Practices*. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 183-204. **Available on OWL**

Barnett, Leroy. "Standing on the Other Side of the Reference Desk," *Archival Issues*, v. 19, #2 (1994): 119-129. Available online via JSTOR https://www-jstor-org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/stable/41101885?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

Week 8. Thursday, July 2

Facilities Management

"Facilities for Academic Archives," Society of American Archivists (SAA)

Week 9. Thursday, July 9

Traditional Outreach - Principles and Practice

Ericson, Timothy L. "Anniversaries: A Framework for Planning Public Programs" in Advocating Archives: An Introduction to Public Relations for Archivists by Elsie Freeman Finch [ed.] (Metuchen, NY: The Scarecrow Press, 1994), pp. 65-82.
See https://books.google.ca/books?id=yNBqo13r16cC&pg=PA65&lpg=PA65&dq=Anniversaries:+A+Framework+for+Planning+Public+Programs&source=bl&ots=W7nYsJ02-C&sig=ACfU3U1SbpbaFS-_iyB7FsrIqIN4cEe2rw&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi36ObM1t7oAhXDG80KHbTBCY8Q6AEwAXoECA4QAQ#v=onepage&q=Anniversaries%3A%20A%20Framework%20for%20Planning%20Public%20Programs&f=false

Finch, Elsie Freeman. "Making Sure They Want It: Managing Successful Public Programs." *American Archivist*, vol. 56 (Winter 1993): 70-75. Available online via JSTOR https://www-jstor-org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/stable/40293715?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

Week 10. Thursday, July 16

Digital Outreach

Baggett, Mark et al. "Pin pointing Success: Assessing the Value of Pinterest and Historypin for Special Collections Outreach" in Kate Theimer, ed., Outreach: Innovative Practices for Archives and Special Collections. (Lanham, MD: Rowan & Littlefield, 2014), pp. 61-76.

Mason, Marissa K. "Outreach 2.0: Promoting Archives and Special Collections through Social Media." *Public Services Quarterly*, vol. 10 (2), April 2014: 157-168. Available online via Scholars Portal <https://www-tandfonline-com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/doi/pdf/10.1080/15228959.2014.904212>

Samouelian, Mary. "Embracing Web 2.0: Archives and the Newest Generation of Web Applications." *American Archivist*, vol. 72 (Spring/Summer 2009): 42-71. Available online via JSTOR https://www-jstor-org.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/stable/40294595?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

Week 11. Thursday, July 23

Conservation and Preservation: Environmental Elements and Caring for Analog Materials

Canadian Council of Archives. *Basic Conservation of Archival Materials* (Revised edition, 2003), Chapter 6 "Collections", pp. 51-73: http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca/RBch6_en.pdf

"Protecting Archives" in Laura A. Millar, *Archives: Principles and Practices*. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 73-96. **Available on OWL**

Week 12. Thursday, July 30

Conservation and Preservation: Digital Media and General Disaster Planning

"The Challenge of Digital Records" in Laura A. Millar, *Archives: Principles and Practices*. (New York: Neal-Schuman, 2010), pp. 203-222. **Available on OWL**

Walsh, B. *Salvage Operations for Water-Damaged Archival Collections: A Second Glance*. Canadian Council of Archives: 2003. Available online at http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca/salvage_en.pdf

Elgin County Archives Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response Plan, revised 2007. **Available on OWL**

Week 13. Thursday, August 6

Future Issues

Interview with Terry Cook, 26 July 2012

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Essays

Students must submit one major essay over the course of the term, 13-15 pages double-spaced and worth 40% of their overall grade. On the first day of class (May 7) they will be given a choice of essay topics, due no later than June 25 (Week 7).

Digital Archival Resource Evaluation

Students are given the task of finding an exceptional archival outreach resource (i.e. digital exhibit or archival digital classroom) and submitting a critique (8-10 pages).

Students are encouraged to discuss their choice with the instructor. The critique is worth 20% of the overall grade. Instructions on this assignment will be given on May 7 and the assignment is due on July 30 (Week 12).

Exercises

Students will be given two practice-based exercises, each worth 15%. Exercise 1 is based on applying learned principles of archival appraisal; Exercise 2 is based on applying learned principles of arrangement.

Participation

Participation will be measured from responses to five questions, each pertaining to a given lecture and the accompanying readings. Each question is worth 2%. Written responses will be no longer than a half-page. They will be submitted to the instructor via email.

Expectations:

All assignments will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Mastery of sources;
2. Quality of thought and expressive force;
3. Factual accuracy, clarity, conciseness and comprehensiveness.

Key dates and deadlines are as follows:

Assignment	Handout Date	Due date
Essay Submission (40%)	Week 1 (May 7)	Week 7 (June 25)
Digital Resource Evaluation (20%)	Week 1 (May 7)	Week 12 (July 30)
Exercise #1 - Appraisal (15%)	Week 4 (May 28)	Week 5 (June 4)
Exercise #2 - Arrangement (15%)	Week 5 (June 11)	Week 6 (June 18)
Participation (5 questions)	TBD	TBD

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/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism-detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).”

SUPPORT SERVICES

For the Policy on Accommodation for Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Students seeking academic accommodation on illness grounds for any assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

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