

LIS 9003 Information Sources & Services
MLIS Program, Faculty of Information & Media Studies, Western University
Fall 2021
Senate Outline

1. Course Information

Time: ONLINE, asynchronous classes September 8 – December 10

Location: online via OWL site: GRADLIS 9003B 650 GF21

Available at: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/directtool/d463c543-93aa-4590-8383-c2874175d337/>

Enrollment in this course is restricted to graduate students in LIS programs at the Faculty of Information & Media Studies.

2. Instructor Information

Paulette Rothbauer, prothba2@uwo.ca

Zoom or Skype meetings by appointment. Drop-in office hours to be announced.

Course Teaching Assistant:

To be announced

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 Requirements

Students are required to complete all modules including any required forum postings, and module exercises including those that will not be formally graded.

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

Class Schedule

Self-directed weekly lessons will be released on Mondays:

Class 1: Introduction and Overview

Class 2: Info Creation & Dissemination; Basic Search Process

Class 3: Wikipedia/Google +

Class 4: Databases and Search Strategies

Class 5: The Reference Encounter Basics

Class 6: The Reference Encounter: Beyond the Basics; Information Behaviour

Class 7: Information Literacy Frameworks

Class 8: Teaching Strategies and Programming

Class 9: Scholarly Communication and Liaison Work

Class 10: Readers Advisory Services

Class 11: EDIA frameworks
Class 12: Reference in other contexts
Class 13: Professional Development and Professional Contributions

4. Course Materials

All required readings are available electronically through the course OWL site.

5. Methods of Evaluation

Database Evaluation OR Reference book review = 25%, week 5

Search Diary + Search Exercises = 25%, week 8

Essay on selected topics OR Instructional Video = 25%, week 12

Reading Responses: 10/12 weeks = 25% [letter grade range at week 7, and at end of course, not graded formally each week]

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

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

7. Support Services

Health and Wellness Support Services: Students who are in emotional or mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness at Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Also see the Mental Health and Wellness Resource Guide for additional information:

<https://www.uwo.ca/health/MHWRG2018.pdf>

Accessible Education Western (AEW): all outlines must include this statement:

Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members, including graduate students. As part of this commitment, Western provides a variety of services devoted to promoting, advocating, and accommodating persons with disabilities in their respective graduate program.

Graduate students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility impairments) are strongly encouraged to register with **Accessible Education Western (AEW)**, a confidential service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both **AEW** and their graduate programs (normally their Graduate Chair and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged. These accommodations include individual counselling, alternative formatted literature, accessible campus transportation, learning strategy instruction, writing exams and assistive technology instruction.

Indigenous Student Centre: For culturally-relevant, wholistic and strength-based programs and services geared toward Indigenous students at Western: <https://indigenous.uwo.ca/students/about/staff-and-community/index.html>

For information on **Indigenous Initiatives at Western:** <https://indigenous.uwo.ca/initiatives/index.html>

FIMS Graduate Library: For help with research in FIMS graduate programs, visit the FGL staff at:

<https://lib.fims.uwo.ca/>