# GRADLIS 9003A 002 Information Sources & Services
## MLIS Program, Faculty of Information & Media Studies, Western University
## Fall 2022
## Senate Outline

## 1. Course Information

**Course number:** GRADLIS 9003A 001 GF22
**Course name:** Information Sources & Services
**Time:** Tuesdays, 5:30-8:20 pm, 13 September – 13 December 2022
**Location:** FN 2230 (in person)
**Course website:** TBA in OWL
> ➢ *Enrollment in this course is restricted to graduate students in LIS programs at the Faculty of Information & Media Studies.*

## 2. Instructor Information

**Instructor:** Dr. Lucia Cedeira Serantes, Assistant Professor (LDI)
**Instructor's website:** https://www.fims.uwo.ca/people/profiles/lucia_cedeira_serantes.html
**Email:** For general course communication *use the OWL message system*. If you need to contact me with an urgent matter, use lcedeir@uwo.ca, *add the* **course number 9003** and **URGENT** to the Subject.
- Allow for 48hrs for any response.
- Note that I do not check communication over weekends, plan accordingly.

**Office hours:** FIMS 4050 LD Office on Tuesdays 3:45pm-4:45pm. Other times/days and meeting formats are possible, if requested at least 48hrs in advance.
**Course Teaching Assistant:** Dereje Gultineh, PhD student – Email: dgultine@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 format:** This course will run in person and students are expected to read, watch, or listen to all the assigned materials in advance of our class meeting. Most in-class exercises will be submitted at the end of the class. The course will include a variety of teaching modes including lectures, tutorials, and facilitated class discussion. A high degree of student engagement is required and expected.

**Course Requirements:** Students are required to submit completed work for <u>all</u> assignments, including those assessed as a pass/fail. Failure to do so may result in failure of the course. Small group meetings and consultation(s) with the instructors may also be required. In-person attendance is mandatory for this course and failure to attend classes may also result in failure of the course.
Grading follows the Grading Guidelines published in the MLIS Graduate Student Handbook.

**Graduate Course Level Learning Outcomes/Objectives**
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).

*PLLO: Program Level Learning Outcomes

## Course timeline (<u>tentative</u>)

| | Date | Topic | Assignment |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sept 13 | Class 1: Introduction; History of information services in libraries; EDIAD framework | |
| 2 | Sept 20 | Class 2: Contemporary contexts of search; Differentiating the information environment | Reading Response |
| 3 | Sept 27 | Class 3: Critical information and media literacy | Reading Response |
| 4 | Oct 4 | Class 4: Pedagogy and teaching contexts | Reading Response Rapid Lit Review |
| 5 | Oct 11 <mark>(online class)</mark> | Class 5: Information needs; information behaviour and practices | Reading Response |
| 6 | Oct 18 | Class 6: Wikipedia and information services | Reading Response |
| 7 | Oct 25 | Class 7: Community information | Reading Response Rapid Lit Review |
| | | **Reading week (oct 31-Nov 4)** | |
| 8 | Nov 8 | Class 8: Community engagement | Reading Response Rapid Lit Review |
| 9 | Nov 15 | Class 9: Information interviews; research consultations | Reading Response |
| 10 | Nov 22 | Class 10: Open access; open publishing; open repositories | Reading Response Rapid Lit Review |
| 11 | Nov 29 | Class 11: Reference desks; information commons and beta spaces | Reading Response |
| 12 | Dec 6 | Class 12: Advisory services | Reading Response Lighting Talk - Tutorial |
| 13 | Dec 13 | Class 13: Critical reference and looking toward the future | |

## 4. Course Materials
All required readings are available electronically through the course OWL site. Students are expected to use additional resources accessible via Western Libraries and the FIMS Graduate Library.

## 5. Methods of Evaluation (<u>tentative</u>)

### A. Assignment 1: Reading responses and class participation [20%], due weekly
You will be required to submit 10 reports on your weekly readings throughout the term (300-400 words). These will be assigned a letter grade (e.g., A-) or letter grade range (e.g., B+/A-).

### B. Assignment 2: Weekly class exercises: [P/F]
There are several exercises that will be assessed on a "pass/fail" basis that will be required as part of the weekly classes. These exercises are designed to help with the work of the major assignments and should be completed as assigned. Failure to complete any of these exercises by the last course class may result in an overall course failure.

**C. Assignment 3: Rapid Literature Review with Zotero and Covidence [55%]**
Working in small groups of 3-4 students, each team will be responsible for conducting a rapid review of scholarly and professional literature in response to an assigned research topic. This assignment comprises several graded components and has multiple due dates (Weeks 4, 7, 8, 10). Zotero and Covidence accounts, using your Western email addresses, are required for this assignment.

**D. Assignment 4: Lightning Talk or Short Form Tutorial [15%] + 1000-word abstract [10%] on a pre-approved topic** [due Week 12]
More information later in the term.

## 6. Resources

**Indigenous Student Centre**: For culturally relevant, wholistic and strength-based programs and services geared toward Indigenous students at Western. See also: **Indigenous Initiatives at Western**.

**FIMS Graduate Library:** For help with research in FIMS graduate programs, consult with the FGL staff.

## 7. Health/Wellness 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.

## 8. Accessible Education Western (AEW)

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.

## 9. 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