

MLIS Program, Faculty of Information & Media Studies
Western University, Winter 2022
LIS 9003 Information Sources & Services (ONLINE)

Instructor: Dr. Nafiz Zaman Shuva
Office hours: by appointment only
Email: nshuva@uwo.ca
Mode of instruction: Online (asynchronous)
Course credit: 0.5
Owl site:[to be published soon]
Course Teaching Assistant: [To be announced soon]

Communicating with the Instructor

Feel free to email me at nshuva@uwo.ca if you have any concerns about the course including if you need further information/clarifications regarding any assignment. You can expect a response from me within 24 hours during the work week. Email sent on the weekend may receive a response the following week. I expect you to check your university email @uwo.ca regularly as you will be receiving announcements about this course to your university email.

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 weekly lessons including required forum postings, and weekly 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 one-week lesson will be released on Thursdays (beginning January 6th, 2022).

Course Outline (Tentative)

Week	Areas to be covered
Week 1—January 6, 2022	Introduction to Information Sources and Services
Week 2—January 13, 2022	Finding and Evaluating Information, Part I
Week 3—January 20, 2022	Finding and Evaluating Information, Part II
Week 4—January 27, 2022	Finding and Evaluating Information, Part III
Week 5—February 3, 2022	Google and Beyond
Week 6—February 10, 2022	The Reference Encounter
Week 7—February 17, 2022	Readers Advisory Services
Week 8—February 24, 2022	MLIS Research Week
Week 9—March 03, 2022	Information Literacy
Week 10—March 10, 2022	Information Behaviour
Week 11—March 17, 2022	Diversity, Inclusion, Anti-Racism, and Decolonization in Information & Library Services
Week 12—March 24, 2022	Scholarly Communication
Week 13—March 31, 2022	Special Subject Resources and Library Marketing and Outreach
Week 14—April 7, 2022	Future of Information Services, Course Summary and Review

Course materials

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

Methods of Evaluation

Assignment	Weight	Dates (tentative)
Participation	10%	Throughout the term: online participations including contributions to online forums, quizzes, and some individual, and group activities
Reading /Learning Reflections (5x5)	25%	Submission due: Week 3, Week 5, Week 8, Week 11, and Week 14
Reflections on Search Activities (worksheets)	15%	Submission due: Week 6
Virtual Coffee with a Patron (role-play, reference interview)	25%	Submission due: Week 9
Instructional Videos	25%	Submission due: Week 12

Enrolment

Enrollment in this course is restricted to graduate students in Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program.

Course Requirements

Students are required to actively participate in the online class activities, read required readings, occasionally reflect on their learning, and participate in group discussions/presentations.

Grading follows the grading guidelines published in the MLIS Graduate Student Handbook.

- **Late submissions:** Late submissions will be penalized (5% penalty per day) unless there are legitimate and documented grounds.

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

Health/Wellness Services

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

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