LIS624 (Section 201)
Information in Science and Technology (Web-based course)
Spring 2008

School of Library Information Science, College of Communication and Information Studies
University of Kentucky

Instructor: *Sujin Kim, Ph.D.*
Assistant Professor
Office: 339 Lucille Little Fine Art Library Building
Office Hour (Online/Offline): Wednesdays, 10A to Noon
or by appointment
Online class: Every Saturdays
In-Class Meeting: 10AM -12:30PM, Saturday, January 12, 2008
In-Class Meeting: 10AM -12:30PM, Saturday, April 26, 2008

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NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change (minor change).   Last modified: January 12, 2008

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1. Course Description/Objectives (Revised from UK-SLIS course description):
This course is intended to teach the students about the content and structure of bibliographic and other information resources and services in science and technology. A consideration of formal and informal communication in science, engineering, and technology with emphasis on sources and services in agriculture, astronomy, biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, health sciences, technology, engineering, and other closely related subjects. (*Prereq: LIS 601 and 602 or consent of instructor.*)

2. Expectations/General Course Policy:
2.1. This course is an advanced reference service class in science and technology area. You will be using what you have learned in general reference and retrieval classes like LIS601 and LIS602. I assume you have taken these courses and have general backgrounds about reference sources and services. As you know, this is a graduate-level course which requires you to study at least *9 hours a week for a three-credit course* like this one. You may need less or more time, but be prepared for the fact that some weeks may be busier than others.

2.2. Students are expected to do all of their graded work independently except for group assignments and, in general, to engage in ethical behavior regarding academic work. Any evidence of cheating and/or plagiarism will be dealt with immediately per university regulations. For details regarding cheating and plagiarism please refer to Section 6.4.0-1 of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/) and Section 6.3 of the University Senate Rules (http://www.uky.edu/USC/Section VI.pdf) for details.

2.3. The challenges related to teaching a course on-line are non-trivial. In particular, it requires that students make serious efforts to keep up with readings and work, take advantage of the communication mechanisms and other tools built into the Blackboard courseware, and to continually self-assess themselves to ensure that you have a grasp of the subject matter. It is particularly important to log onto the course frequently in order to keep up with the topics and class announcements being discussed.

3. Weekly Readings:
Recommended readings will supplement and enhance the topics to be covered each week. The assigned readings should be covered before or after weekly course slides and required for your class discussion to be posted each assigned weeks. The assigned readings should be something that makes you interest for your further learning in science and technology resources and services. According to individual topic, the required readings are assigned in the course calendar and can be added if I find more interesting articles. You are to keep your reading log to be included in the final reading summary log and learning evaluation essay. You are very welcomed to post any relevant articles with citation to be accessible by other fellow students.

4. Online and Offline Class meetings:
4.1. Although we will not have face-to-face meeting each week, I assume this online class is in session every Saturday unless further/special notice is announced. The course will be taught through a series of individually designed weekly lessons, each of which relates to a specific area in science and technology resources and services. Each weekly lesson will consist of two to four learning units and it will be posted on Blackboard Course Document Folder before early Saturday mornings. Therefore, it is very important to be familiar with Blackboard Courseware (please check Blackboard homepage to find out further information available at http://elearning.uky.edu/index.html)!!!

There will be TWO FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS for this class including first meeting on Saturday, January 12, 2008 between 10A – 12:30P and second meeting on Saturday, April 26, 2008 between 10A to 12:30P. For the second meeting, further notice and information about project and presentation schedule will be posted.

5. The Blackboard Course Page:
The Blackboard course is a main course tool for this class and you will be required to keep a stable Internet connection to keep up all the relevant course materials and activities. Students should be aware that Blackboard keeps records of the dates and times they use various sections of the class pages. The following information

about course folders is to give you general understanding of individual course folders. Please consult with me or UK Blackboard Student Help and Support available at http://www.uky.edu/Blackboard/student.php for further assistance.

5-1. Announcements
These appear first whenever the student logs in to the class site. Important announcements may appear at any time during the course and students should *log in no less often than every other day.*

5-2. Course Information
In this folder, student can find course related materials such as syllabus, links to take exams, instruction about assignments, and study guides for exam. Any necessary information can be added as needed. Further announcement will be posted as information is included.

5-3. Staff Information
In this folder, you can find my contact information to inquire course related questions. I will communicate with students in several ways. Most questions about homework and material availability should be posted to the Q & A forum in the Discussion Board. For personal matters, students can communicate with me through email at sujinkim@uky.edu. Students can also communicate with me during my office hours (Wednesdays, between 10A and Noon).Synchronous conversation by telephone or private online chat through Blackboard, during my office hour (or by appointment) is also available, if needed.

5-4. Course Documents
This folder includes documents and weekly lecture slides, links and information about weekly readings, things to do list with due dates, etc. Lecture Notes for each week will be provided both in Microsoft PowerPoint slides (MHTML) format and in PDF format with some guidelines.

5-5. Assignments
Here you can find the instructions to complete assignments (e.g., assignment guidelines and links to Assignment Drop folders will be provided in this folder). The individual links to Assignments will be given as needed and this link is where you will deposit all of your assignments. Your assignments MUST have your name in the title of the file and in the document itself (preferably in the header or footer) if you want full credit for your work. For instance, one can see that a file named SujinKimAssignment1.doc is student Sujin Kim's assignment 1. I have no idea what a file labelled with Assignment1.doc is!

5-6. Communication
(NOTE: Any official announcements will be posted on Blackboard Announcement).

As indicated above, if you have questions (or matters) during the course of the semester, you have a few options for communicating with the instructor or other classmates. First, a Course Q&A section of the Discussion Board has been created for students to ask each other questions regarding the course in general. Often, simple problems can be resolved by utilizing this mechanism. Professionals constantly interact and collaborate with each other online. This is one place where each student can share the expertise or experience they have with the rest of the class.

Second, you may also wish to contact the instructor directly (sujinkim@uky.edu). Given that I am teaching two courses, please understand that it may take up to 48 hours to respond to some emails, although most will be responded to before then. If several students have emailed similar concerns, I may try to address these with one email to the entire class.

Third, I will utilize synchronous communication such as "chat" and "office hours" available through Blackboard. Any of these sessions may be recorded and the transcript posted here. Read the User Manual (Under "Tools") to learn how to use these! Online office hours and live chat will be available between 10A and Noon every Wednesdays unless further/special notice is announced.

Students can also drop by my office located in 339 Lucille Little Fine Art Library Building during my office hour or by appointment. You can also reach me at 859-257-8657. However, emailing is better than telephone contact.

5-7. External Links
These are links to websites that are mentioned in the course. (Hint: They are usually easier to use if you right click on the link and choose "Open Link in New Window"). The links you provide can be posted and shared among your classmates.

5-8. Tools
My Grades is where I will post your grades. Note that each assignment is weighted. For example, if an assignment is weighted at 10%, it will contribute 10 points to your final grade if you get 100% of it right, and 9 points if you get 9%, etc. However, sometimes I need to convert and rescale grade as needed. The User Manual is very important. Use it! Ask me if you find some question about the tools and grades!

6. Grading and Assignments:
- *Mid term and Final exam (30%)→Individual assessment*
- *Reference Question Assignment (15%)→Group assignment*
- *Reading Summary Log and Learning Evaluation Essay (15%)→Individual assignment*
- *Case Scenario Project (30%)→Group assignment*
- *Discussion: Class Participation (10%)→Group assignment*

Grading Scale:
- 90‑100   A
- 80‑89.9   B
- 70‑79.9   C
- 69.9 or less   Fail

6-1. Mid-term and Final exam (30%)
Mid term and final exam will be administered online through <u>*Blackboard courseware*</u> **between 10A and 12:30P on Saturday, March 1, 2008 and Saturday April 19, 2008**. You only require one hour completing the exams within 2 hours and 30 minutes timeframe. More detailed information will be posted on BB. It is very important to keep a secure Internet connection while taking exams. It is highly preferred to use DSL or high-speed Internet connection. You should report any unexpected problems to me immediately, if occurs during the online exams. The failure to do so may causes the loss of your point. I will stay online to pick up your questions during the exams.

6-2.Reference Question Assignment (15%)→Group work
200 Reference Questions Assignment are designed to train you to work on various reference questions that you might encounter at reference desk. 200 questions are compiled from various resources for your searching practices. It is your task to seek the best correct answer to each question from most reliable and accessible resources.

6-3.Reading Summary and Learning Evaluation Essay (15%)
In your reading summary log and learning evaluation essay, you are to include your weekly reading summary of the 10 assigned readings. Summary should be about 150-200 words per reading using a 12pt font size in MS Word. You are required to include all individual reading summaries for full credit along with learning evaluation essay by due date. Please use this reading summary assignment for your learning prep!

6-4.Case Scenario Project (30%)→Group work

Case-based learning (or problem-based learning) is currently applied to many academic disciplines as a practical approach to bridge academia to real work setting. Throughout this case scenario project, three tasks will be assigned to achieve the goal. Initially, you are asked to collect real reference questions (or answerable questions) from real work setting (or literatures). Secondly, you are required to provide relevant and professional search strategies for the questions you collected. Finally, your questions and search strategies will be prepared to present to your fellow students in class. For each step, you are to submit your result before due dates given in the Notes section in the course calendar.

6-5.Discussion: Class Participation (10%)→Group work
To get full credit for class participation, you are to reply to the posted weekly topics in BB discussion for every assigned week. Each discussion topics will be announced in Blackboard Discussion Board folder. I will observe your class participation weekly and will post your score at the end of class! Each group's discussion moderator will compile what individual group member replies and submit the discussion summary into Assignment folder. Further instruction will be posted in Course Information folder.

7. Submitting Assignments:
Assignments should be submitted into the Assignment folder in Blackboard courseware. Please use MS Word for written assignments. PLEASE FOLLOW THE FILE NAMING CONVENTION AS INSTRUCTED BELOW. Be sure to include your name (and individual group member name) on top of inside file and file names.

   (ex.   *For Reference Question Assignment*:   GroupNumberQuestion.doc;
           For Learning Evaluation Log and Essay: LastnameFirstnameLearning.doc;
           For Case Scenario Project: GroupNumberProject.doc).

8. Late Policy:
Assignments that are turned in late will be marked one letter grade lower unless prior approval from the instructor has been obtained. It will be based on time stamp provided by Blackboard. (NOTE: Only assignments submitted no later than one week after original due date will be graded.)

9. Special Considerations:
If you have a disability that requires special testing accommodations or other modifications, please, notify both the instructor and Disability Resources and Services by the second week of the term. You may be asked to provide documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. To notify Disability Resources and Services, contact and visit the UK Disability Student Resource Center at http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/DisabilityResourceCenter/ .

10. Course Calendar:
In this course calendar, 12 lessons are listed. For each lesson, subtopics are given for each week. (*Note:* Last column shaded in grey gives you important due dates and relevant information). Ten reading summaries are assigned to be included in your learning logs. Eight discussions are assigned for you to participate in the class discussion after you study each lecture slides and readings. The Course Schedule is subject to change for minor revision (or updates) and will be announced in BB.

Date	Topic	Note
1/12	**Lesson 1:** (FIRST INCLASS MEETING) -Overview of Course -Course logistics -Blackboard Features/Course Homepage	● Course syllabus and Blackboard course homepage should be fully understood! ● Meeting Place: 355 Lucille Little
1/19	**Lesson 2:** -Field of Science, Technology, & Engineering -Reference Services, Reference Interviews, and Searches	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 1/19/2008 ● Student Contract ● Introduction to yourself ● Reading Summary #1 (about Lesson 2)
1/26	**Lesson 3:** Information Seeking Behaviors for Scientists, Technologists, and Engineers	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 1/26/2008 ● Reading Summary #2 (about Lesson 3) ● Discussion #1 (about Lesson 2)
2/2	**Lesson 4:** -General Reference Sources: Directories, Encyclopedias and Yearbooks, and Dictionaries and Glossaries	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 2/2/2008 ● Reading Summary #3 (about Lesson 4) ● Discussion #2 (about Lesson 3)
2/9	**Lesson 5**: -Information Access Tools: Current Awareness, Databases, Indexes, and Library Catalogs	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 2/9/2008 ● Reading Summary #4 (about Lesson 5) ● Discussion #3 (about Lesson 4) ● Case Scenario Project Step 1 (5 Searchable Questions Due)
2/16	**Lesson 6**: -Scholarly Journals, Trade Journals, and Newsletters	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 2/16/2008 ● Reading Summary #5 (about Lesson 6) ● Discussion #4 (about Lesson 5)
2/23	**Lesson 7**: -Grey Literature: Research and Technical Reports, Conference Papers	● NO READING SUMMARY ● NO DISCUSSION
3/1	Mid-Term (NO CLASS LESSON)	10A-12:30P, Saturday, 3/1/ 2008 (Blackboard exam)
3/8	**Lesson 8**: -Handbooks, Manuals, and Data book -Buyer's Guides	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 3/8/2008 ● Reading Summary #6 (about Lesson 8) ● NO DISCUSSION
3/15	Spring Break (NO CLASS)	● NO READING SUMMARY ● NO DISCUSSION
3/22	**Lesson 9**: -Internet Resources	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 3/22/2008 ● Reading Summary #7 (about Lesson 9) ● Discussion #5 (about Lesson 8) ● Case Scenario Project Step 2 (Search Strategies Due)
3/29	**Lesson 10**: -Professional and Associations, Organizations, and Societies	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 3/29/2008 ● Reading Summary #8 (Lesson 10) ● Discussion #6 (Lesson 9)

4/5	**Lesson 11**: -Regulation, Standards, and Specification	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 4/5/2008 ● Reading Summary #9 (Lesson 11) ● Discussion #7 (Lesson 10) ● Reference Question Assignment Due
4/12	**Lesson 12**: -Intellectual Property and Patents	Due by:11:59pm, Saturday, 4/12/2008 ● Reading Summary #10 (Lesson 12) ● Discussion #8 (Lesson 11) ● Reading and Learning Evaluation Logs
4/19	Final Exam (NO CLASS LESSON)	● 10A-12:30P, Saturday, 4/19/2008 (Blackboard exam)
4/26	Case Scenario Project Presentation Day (IN-CLASS MEETING) Presentation: 10A – 12:30P Where: 355 Lucille Little Library	● NO READING SUMMARY ● NO DISCUSSION ● Case Scenario Project Step 3 Due (Presentation and Evaluation Due) ● Presentation Slides should be sent by 11:59P, 4/25/2008