

**LIS 622-201 Social Science Information
Course Syllabus
Spring 2008**

Course Description and Objectives

This course is an advanced study of information resources in the social science disciplines and will build upon the introductory experience of LIS 601 in the examination of core information sources and services. The objectives of the course content are to support the students' achievement in:

- Gaining an awareness and practical understanding of the information structure for the various disciplines in the social sciences including the interdisciplinary nature of several of these fields,
- Gaining practical experience with specific information resources in each social science field,
- Enhancing experience in evaluating sources of information for inclusion in research collections and more specific research strategies,
- Gaining an appreciation and understanding of the role of information professionals in supporting, enhancing, and influencing the processes of creation (research), utilization, and diffusion (teaching and learning) of information within social science disciplines.
- Applying this acquired knowledge of the information professional's role and experience with sources in the social sciences to construct research strategies, bibliographic tools and instructional materials.

Course Content

In addition to an examination of sources and issues relating to the broad field of social sciences, specific disciplines such as political science, economics, history, anthropology, sociology, education, psychology, geography, and communication will be studied. Business and law are disciplines treated in separate courses in the UK SLIS curriculum and will only be studied in this course as they relate to the interdisciplinary information needs of users in the disciplines that are the focus of this course.

Course Text

Herron, Nancy L., *The Social Sciences: A Cross-Disciplinary Guide to Selected Sources*, Greenwood Village, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 3rd edition, 2002. Available from online book sellers or directly from the publisher at <http://www.lu.com> or 1-800-225-5800.

Grading

- Expanded Study Projects

Assignment	Points
2 comparisons of topic coverage among a selected	8 points each = Total 16 points possible

group of reference sources	
2 reviews of reference sources not in Herron book	10 points each = Total 20 points possible
2 reports on selected subject portals	10 points each = Total 20 points possible

- Weekly Assignments

Assignment	Points
Lesson Assignments	8 points each = Total 96 points possible
Contributions to class discussions	3 points each Lesson = 36 points possible

- Grading Scale

- A 170 points and above
- B 150 – 169 points
- C 131 - 149 points
- E 130 points and below

Work Load Estimate

Expectations for graduate course work are based upon a 4:1 ratio, i.e. for each hour of course credit, four hours of class work/preparation/study/application of course content will be required. At times in the semester you may be spending more or less than twelve hours per week on this course. This work load expectation will serve as an average estimation for your planning purposes.

Course Delivery

Class materials will be available in an online Blackboard site. Many reference sources necessary to complete course work will be available online (either free on the web or through UK's Library collections.) However, it will be necessary for students to utilize print sources in an academic library or very large public library. Class discussions will take place through Discussion Boards in this site. Optional online chat sessions may be offered, particularly in response to a class-wide interest. The course instructor may be contacted via email or phone. In addition, online office hours will be available. If desired, an in-person appointment can be made with the instructor. There will not be any required F2F class meetings.

NOTE: Except in cases of emergencies, make-ups/late assignments must be approved in advance of due dates. Arrangements for completing assignments late will be rarely granted and are available only at the discretion of the instructor.