LRES101: Library Resources 101 (Sec. 2)

Spring 2017 - Syllabus

# Course Information

## Instructor Information

**Instructor:** Nerissa Nelson

**Office:** Room 104B (1st flr of Albertson Hall/Library)  
**Office Hours:** Mondays noon-1 p.m. (also by appointment)  
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## Course Description

### **This is a 1-credit, pass/fail course.**

**Class meets every Monday & Wednesday 11:00 – 11:50 a.m. (Room 107 ALB/Library).**

The purpose of this course is to help you become proficient and discerning in using library resources to obtain relevant information. You will learn information literacy skills, concepts, and strategies for college-level research. You will also learn how to access, use, and evaluate information resources and will become more familiar with the Library.

## Textbook & Course Materials

### Required Text

* There is no required textbook for this class. There will be occasional readings, which will be posted in D2L or will be distributed in class.

## Required Materials

* D2L Access (I will post grades, assignments, & readings)
* We will provide laptops for some in-class activities, but if you have your own laptop or mobile device with Internet Access, please feel free to use that.

## Course Structure

This course is a combination of lectures, discussions, activities, tours, assignments, and guest speakers.

# Student Learning Goals

* **Select and access information sources** – you will learn to navigate a variety of information systems, catalogs, and databases to select the most appropriate resources for your research needs.
* **Search techniques and strategies** – you will learn to employ search strategies appropriate for a variety of information systems.
* **Evaluate sources** – you will learn how to analyze sources to determine the reliability, quality, validity, accuracy, authority, point of view, bias, and relevancy.
* **Cite sources** – you will learn how to cite your research/sources to use information responsibly and ethically.

**Expectations**

You will meet the goals listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

* + Attend all classes
  + Complete all assignments and readings
  + Participate in discussions
* Hopefully you are enrolled in the class to learn more about the library, how to locate and search for sources, and general information literacy concepts, which will help you in other classes in your academic career (even if you are taking this class for the one-credit).
* Please check your email, as well as D2L, for class information, assignment updates, and grades.
* We may have in-class and group assignments where you will use your phones, iPads or laptops to complete those tasks. However, during lectures or guest speakers, and when you need to pay attention, please turn off your cell phones. It is the polite thing to do.
* Academic Integrity & Plagiarism – You are responsible for reading and understanding the University’s policy on [Community Rights](https://www3.uwsp.edu/acadaff/Handbook/2016-17%20HandbookREVISIONSno_index.pdf) (Academic Standards & Disciplinary Procedures).
* Accommodations – please information me if you have any special accommodations needs.
* I am here to help you and want you to succeed in this class. Please always ask me questions if you are unsure of something.

**Grading**

* Students must achieve at least 70% (105 points) for a final course grade to pass. If not, you will fail the course. Assignments will be graded on a point system (each assignment will have different points). Attendance and class participation will also be worth points. Late assignments will lose 2 points from the total points for that given assignment.

LRES101   
Topic Outline/Assignment Schedule

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period for the due date. There may be some adjustments made to the following schedule. If so, you will be told ahead of time.

| **Date** | **Topic** | **Readings** | **Activities/Assignment** | **Due Date** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3/27 – M | **Introduction/First Day:** Introductions, Questionnaire, Library Homepage, Virtual tour, D2L |  | Questionnaire activity  (5 points) | In-class activity |
| 3/29 – W | **Library Overview:**  Tour, collections, study spaces, and more | “Information Overload” article | Information Overload – short essay assignment  (10 points) | **4/3** |
| 4/3 – M | **Information Sources I:**  Intro to discovery system – search for books, articles, videos, and more. |  | Search@UW assignment  (10 points) | **4/5** |
| 4/5 – W | **Information Sources II:** Understanding reference sources, reference databases, and ASKUS |  | Reference Assignment  (10 points) | **4/10** |
| 4/10 – M | **Scholarship as Conversation:** ACRL framework. Conversational nature of sources. | Two articles on student loans/debt | Article analysis activity  (5 points) | In-class group activity |
| 4/12 – W | **Search as Strategic Exploration I:** Databases, Subject databases, and effective search strategies |  | Search strategies & article assignment  (10 points) | **4/17** |
| 4/17 – M | **Research as Inquiry:** Understanding the complexity of fake news | Article about fake news | Fake news assignment  (10 points) | **4/19** |
| 4/19 – W | **Emerging & New Technologies:**  Exploring new technologies and how they relate to libraries |  | Tech Assignment  (10 points) | **4/24** |
| 4/24 – M | **Search as Strategic Exploration II:**  Internet Research |  | Web evaluation assignment  (10 points) | **4/26** |
| 4/26 – W | **Government Documents:**  Meet in Room 605 |  | Gov Docs Assignment  (10 points) | **5/1** |
| 5/1 – M | **Information Creation as a Process:** The ethical use of information and identifying sources/citations |  | Citation Assignment  (10 points) | **5/3** |
| 5/3 – W | **University Archives:**  Meet in Room 507 |  | Take notes for Final Exam |  |
| 5/8 – M | **Data & Information:** Understanding data sets beyond Text |  | Data assignment  (10 points) | **5/10** |
| 5/10 – W | **Wrap up:**  Course Evaluation, Final Exam Review |  | Study for final |  |
| 5/17 - W | **\*FINAL EXAM – 12:30 p.m**. |  | (25 points) |  |
|  | **Class participation** |  | (15 points) |  |

\*Students who complete all assignments satisfactorily (not just passing), turn them in when due, attend ALL classes, and participate in class discussions, may be exempt from taking the final exam at the discretion of the instructor. You will be notified if you will or will not have to take the final during class on May 10.

**Important Note:** Please remember that any form of academic dishonesty is a serious matter. If there is an indication of cheating or plagiarism, it may be reported to the office of student affairs. **Course policies are subject to change.** It is the student’s responsibility to check your email and D2L for any corrections or updates to the syllabus.