LIBS - Library Science

LIBRARY SCIENCE Courses

LIBS 110G. Information Literacy for the Digital Age. 3 Credits.
Students require a comprehensive understanding of information literacy so they can become effective users of ideas and information and guide others in activities of knowledge use and creation. This course will provide an introduction to the process and methods of retrieving information using digital literacies. Students will learn to identify an information need, then locate, evaluate, and use appropriate resources while embedding the dispositions of academic integrity and ethical use. Topics include use of collaborative tools for development of information, including social media. The content focuses on implementing effective digital information literacy strategies situated in various content areas with the intent that these strategies can be incorporated into future professional and instructional practices.

LIBS 602. Production of Instructional Materials. 3 Credits.
Develops skills in preparing, evaluating, and presenting instructional materials and the use of those materials to promote higher-level thinking and enhance the learning environment. Includes elements of design, multimedia materials, and development of in-service activities. Hands-on practice in media production and dissemination.

LIBS 603. Online Resources for Teaching. 3 Credits.
Students will gain experience locating, evaluating, collecting, arranging, and disseminating content resources available as open educational resources to support learning and teaching. Issues surrounding open educational resources including copyright, licensing, access, and quality will be addressed. A primary focus will be on developing digital textbooks that may include websites, databases, current awareness experts, and digital field trips to support the delivery of instruction.

LIBS 608. Foundations of Libraries and Information. 3 Credits.
This course provides social, cultural, and historical perspectives on libraries and librarianship. The purpose, functions and processes of libraries and information are explored. Current types of libraries and information agencies are explored. Legal, ethical, advocacy, and economic policies, trends and positions are addressed.

LIBS 609. History of Books and Libraries. 3 Credits.
This course provides a historical perspective on books and libraries as social and cultural objects and spaces. Surveys the history of communication technologies from early history through current events and from stone tablets to electronic formats.

LIBS 610. Preservation Management in Libraries and Archives. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the principles and practice of preservation with an emphasis on the management of preservation activities. Includes physical and intellectual preservation of records and media and the history, kinds of materials and treatments, techniques and technologies, and digitization and digital records. Issues of storage, security, and disaster prevention and response will also be addressed.

LIBS 612. Research Methods in Library and Information Studies. 3 Credits.
This course will introduce students to theoretical and applied research design, methodologies, and evaluation of research in library and information science (LIS). The course will include a review of existing research, allowing students to evaluate and assess the potential value of literature and research findings through critical analysis. Basic qualitative and quantitative research protocols will be learned through this class. Pre- or corequisite: LIBS 608.

LIBS 642. Children’s Literature PREK-8. 3 Credits.
Students examine, evaluate, discuss, and use literature and related materials for children and young adolescents and explore strategies for introducing and using literature with children. Prerequisite: graduate standing.

LIBS 644. Literature and Media for Young Adults. 3 Credits.
An exploration of the selection of literature and media for young adults (ages 12 - 18). Includes current trends and research in teens’ social, physical and cultural development, teen interests and needs, and multiple literacies. Focus is on multiple formats, diverse learners, and strategies to promote reading for information, pleasure and lifelong learning. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

LIBS 647. Reading and Literature for Adults. 3 Credits.
Survey of trends and selection tools in literature and reading for adult library patrons including popular fiction and non-fiction genres in multiple formats and across life stages in adulthood. Strategies will include reader’s advisory, book clubs, and other programming to meet the diverse needs and interests of adult readers.

LIBS 648. Reading, Evaluating, and Selecting Graphic Novels. 3 Credits.
This course explores the use, selection and evaluation of literature and media that use sequential art to tell stories in a visual format: comics, webcomics, graphic novels, and more. The course will include the history of the sequential art format; an exploration of reading through a variety of graphics, text and media; and a survey of current and historical titles for all ages. Students will explore resources for selecting and evaluating materials in graphic format as well as specific applications for graphic materials in classrooms and libraries.

LIBS 649. Storytelling. 3 Credits.
Explores storytelling for the purpose of informing, entertaining and/or educating in an information setting. This course introduces narrative structure and technique using a variety of different media. Storytelling strategies help students gain communication skills and practice. Students will explore the potential use of storytelling for a variety of age groups, from preschool through adults, and for special audiences.

LIBS 654. Information Literacy Instruction. 3 Credits.
Students will develop expertise in the delivery of in-person and online information literacy and research instruction in library and information contexts through an exploration of various information literacy models, standards, and theories. Students will gain practical experience in planning, implementing, and assessing library instruction and digital learning objects through a variety of delivery methods.

LIBS 655. Methods and Strategies for the School Library. 1-3 Credits.
Participants will draw from research-based theory of pedagogical best practice to discuss, model and apply practical applications to content topics. Content focuses on strategies to implement effective classroom management for the library learning environment, engage library learners and assess their performance, and build collaborative relationships that integrates library and content instruction into practice.

LIBS 656. User Services and Programming. 3 Credits.
An overview of the planning, evaluation, and administration of programs and services designed to meet the needs and interests of individuals and groups in libraries and other information spaces.

LIBS 657. LGBTQIA+ Issues in Public Libraries. 3 Credits.
The populations served by public libraries are varied and diverse, and they require resources that will address these diverse needs. Budgetary and political concerns, among other things, often restrict the ability of libraries to fulfill the needs of “invisible populations,” or groups whose minority status is not readily or visually apparent, such as the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual plus (LGBTQIA+) community. This course is designed to bring particular issues the LGBTQIA+ community may have in relation to public libraries to the forefront and provide students with the tools to address these issues in the field.

LIBS 658. Knowledge Resources: Planning, Selecting & Managing Collections. 3 Credits.
Examines the concepts and issues related to the lifecycle of recorded knowledge and information including emerging technologies. Addresses fundamentals of planning, selecting, analyzing, managing, and developing collections and technology resources for diverse communities. Pre- or corequisite: LIBS 608.
LIBS 691. Seminar in Public Libraries. 3 Credits.

Students will gain an understanding of public libraries in the United States and their role within their communities. Topics covered include a historical background of public libraries, overviews of current trends, and future directions in public libraries. This course also explores public services, the roles and expectations of public librarianship as a career.

LIBS 692. Seminar in Academic Libraries. 3 Credits.

Academic libraries are dynamic organizations, working to meet the needs of their users and stakeholders while supporting parent higher education institutions. This course examines the functions of the academic library within the higher education environment. A wide variety of topics are covered in this survey of the field, including a focus on the historical background, current trends, and future directions in academic librarianship.

LIBS 693. Seminar in Archives and Special Collections. 3 Credits.

An introduction to the nature of archives and special collections. The course explores the history of special collections, archives, records, and cultural memory. Aspects of the profession including ethics, values, financial and legal responsibilities are included. Students will be introduced to the basic knowledge, tools, methods and practices associated with archival work.

LIBS 694. Seminar in Social Justice in Library and Information Work. 3 Credits.

In this seminar course, students will explore current social justice issues through an activist framework. Historical and contemporary frameworks, positions and initiatives related to the library profession will be considered. The course will examine professional structures, documents, emerging frameworks and social actions as they relate to specific topics of social justice.

LIBS 695. Topics in Library and Information Studies. 1-3 Credits.

This course provides opportunities for graduate students to explore current topics, trends and issues related to libraries and information studies.

LIBS 697. Cataloging and Classification. 3 Credits.

Cataloging and metadata principles introduced in LIBS 677 are further developed and applied in this course. Students will apply principles of bibliographic description, subject analysis, and classification to a variety of formats including multimedia, serials, and online resources. The course will address systems, technology and trends in cataloging and metadata environments. Prerequisites: LIBS 677 or instructor approval.

LIBS 698. Master’s Graduate Credit. 1 Credit.

This course is a pass/fail course for master’s students in their final semester. It may be taken to fulfill the registration requirement necessary for graduation. All master's students are required to be registered for at least one graduate credit hour in the semester of their graduation.