ULIB 696a
Information Research Strategies for Graduate Students and Researchers
Syllabus

Course Title and Number: Information Research Strategies for Graduate Students and Researchers  ULIB 696a

Description of Course
The course is designed to provide a foundation for graduate level library research. The 10 week course addresses topics such as literature reviews, managing citations, information access policies, social networking forums and copyright basics. This online course is open to graduate students and researchers in all departments and disciplines.

Online Course
The course will be taught through Desire2Learn (D2L). Please consult the following information links for more information about effective use of D2L:

- Website: [http://www.d2l.arizona.edu](http://www.d2l.arizona.edu)
- D2L student tip sheet: [http://www.help.d2l.arizona.edu/tip_sheet](http://www.help.d2l.arizona.edu/tip_sheet)
- D2L Help pages: [http://help.d2l.arizona.edu](http://help.d2l.arizona.edu)
- D2L sometimes experiences service interruptions. Please plan to have your reading and assignments done well before the due date.

Instructor Information
Name: Jeanne Pfander
Office Location: Main Library, Rm A208
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Course Goals and Expected Learning Outcomes

Course Goals:
The course will:

- Provide graduate students and researchers with a foundation for searching, locating and managing information for their graduate courses and research.
- Analyze the scholarly communication mechanisms for disciplinary and interdisciplinary areas.
- Examine the legal and ethical issues of information access and use.

Course Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and use of information sources in their discipline and related disciplinary areas.
- Successfully identify and apply search strategies.
- Effectively manage citations using a bibliographic management program.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the disciplinary information structure (flow of information, types of publications, dissemination mechanisms)
- Apply ethical and legal standards in their use of information.
## Course Schedule

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<td>Exploring Your Research Topic</td>
<td>Effective Database Searching Techniques &amp; Database Functionality</td>
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<td>Citation Management</td>
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<td>Sept 19 – Sept 25</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Peer Review of Research Portfolio</td>
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### Research Portfolio - Due by end of Week 9 (Nov 6)

The course project is a research portfolio – an annotated selection of information resources in your discipline that you discover throughout the course.

### Course Methodology

The course is taught online through a combination of readings, tutorials, slide presentations, discussions, assignments and course project.

### Required Texts

Course readings will consist of journal articles, blog postings, and other full-text linked materials. All readings will be required and will be available on the course site.
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Required or Special Materials
Students must have the latest version of Flash Player installed on their computers.

Required/Recommended Knowledge
Basic computer and internet skills are required.

Grading Policy
Letter grades will be awarded as follows:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70–79%
- D = 60-69%
- E = 0 - 59%

Grades are based on the following:

- Assignments (16) 335 pts
- Discussions (5) 50 pts
- Research Portfolio 100 pts
- Assessments/Evaluation (3) 15 pts
- Total: 500 pts

Feedback on assignments and discussions will be given through D2L to students individually through written comments. Feedback will be given within 7 days after submission.

Assignments/Participation/Final Project Submission:
All assignments, discussions, and the research portfolio must be submitted on the due date. Students are responsible for assuring proper delivery of their assignments/final project. Points will be deducted for late submissions: 10% total points – 1 day late; 20% total points for 2 or more days late. Assignments submitted later than one week after the due date will not receive any credit. If there is an exceptional reason for late submissions, please notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Assignment Format
All assignments and discussion topics will be available through the D2L course site. All assignments will be placed in the D2L drop-box.

Participation/Attendance
Taking an online course can be quite different from taking a traditional course. In order to get the most of out of this course you should log in at least twice a week instead of completing an entire unit in one sitting. You should also set aside specific study times so that you don’t leave things until the last moment.

Class Conduct
All UA students are responsible for upholding the Student Code of Conduct, which can be read online at http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policiesandcodes/studentcodeofconduct.
Special Needs and Accommodations
Students who need special accommodation or services should contact the Disability Resources Center, 1224 East Lowell Street, Tucson, AZ 85721, (520) 621-3268, FAX (520) 621-9423, email: uadrc@email.arizona.edu, http://drc.arizona.edu/.

You must register and request that the Center or DRC send me official notification of your accommodations needs as soon as possible. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate. The need for accommodations must be documented by the appropriate office.

Student Code of Academic Integrity
Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/sites/deanofstudents.arizona.edu/files/code_of_academic_integrity.pdf

Confidentiality of Student Records
http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/privacyguidelines.htm

Subject to Change Statement
Information contained in the course syllabus may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.