

Eastern Oregon University
Course Syllabus

Number of Course: LIB 127

Name of Course: Information Literacy

Catalog Description: Students in this course will learn methods of finding, evaluating, interpreting, managing and using information to answer questions in an academic context. Critical thinking and flexibility in approaches to information seeking and selection are emphasized. In addition to learning how to apply information literacy concepts for lifelong learning, students will gain practical skills and experience in using a 21st century academic library.

Credit Hours: 2

Instructor: Pierce Library Faculty

Time and place of the course: This course is available on campus Winter and Spring terms, and online Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer terms.

Required Texts or Suggested Materials: List-Handley, Carla. *Information Literacy & Technology* 5th edition (Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt, 2013).

Prerequisites: None

Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will recognize the importance of applying information literacy skills effectively in an academic setting
2. Students will identify the types of information required to address a multifaceted information need
3. Students will be able to locate information through a variety of sources and tools
4. Students will be able to use some advanced search techniques (controlled vocabulary, Boolean operators)
5. Students will be able to evaluate information and information sources
6. Students will be able to use information and information technologies ethically and legally

Course Requirements:

1. Some Internet navigation and computer skills are required for the course.
2. Attendance and participation in class or Discussion forum
3. Completion of assignments
4. Completion of mid-term exam
5. Completion of final exam/project

Grading Policies:

1. Assignments and quizzes are worth points noted in detailed syllabus.
2. Attendance and classroom participation and/or discussion are also awarded points.
3. Graded midterm and final exams/project are open-book format.
4. Acceptance of late or resubmitted assignments is at the discretion of individual instructors.
5. The basis for students' final grade is weighted as follows:
 - 20% Participation in class/discussion forum
 - 40% Individual assignments
 - 15% mid-term exam
 - 25% Final exam/project
6. Grades are assigned using the following percentage scale:

A	94% - 100%	C+	77% - 79%
A-	90% - 93%	C	74% - 76%
B+	87% - 89%	C-	70% - 73%
B	84 % - 86%	D	60% - 69%
B-	80% - 83%	F	00% – 59%F

Means of Assessment:

Participation (LOs 1,2,4)

Includes attendance (on-campus classes) and active participation in class discussions and activities. Lectures and discussions are interactive and will explore concepts and pose questions related to research strategies and course subject matter.

Assignments (LOs 3-6)

Students will learn and practice search strategies, techniques and evaluation of results in a variety of subscription and free Web resources which may include Google Scholar, Credo Reference, USA.gov, Science.gov, Academic Search Premier and Pierce Library's Library Search (Primo).

Midterm Exam (LOs 2, 5)

Exams are made up of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions that prompt students to demonstrate understanding of vocabulary, search strategies and techniques and course concepts.

Final Exam (LOs 1, 4-6)

Exams are made up of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions that prompt students to demonstrate understanding of vocabulary, search strategies and techniques and course concepts.

Final Project (LOs 1,2,5,6)

The final project is a collection of sources that requires students to locate and select a variety of source types and demonstrate the ability to cite sources in appropriate formats, evaluate

information sources and discuss how they would be used to address a research question. The format of the project may vary according to instructor and modality (online or on-campus), and may be a Powerpoint (or other) presentation, an annotated bibliography, a paper, or oral presentation.

Alternate view:

Outcomes	Means of Assessment
1. Students will recognize the importance of applying information literacy skills effectively in an academic setting	Final exam Final project Participation
2. Students will identify the types of information required to address a multifaceted information need	Midterm exam Final project Participation
3. Students will be able to locate information through a variety of sources and tools	Assignments: Google Scholar, Credo Reference, USA.gov, Academic Search Premier, Database Comparison Assignment Final Project
4. Students will be able to use some advanced search techniques (controlled vocabulary, Boolean operators)	Assignments: Library Search, Academic Search Premier Final exam Participation
5. Students will be able to evaluate information and information sources	Midterm exam Final exam Final project Website evaluation assignment
6. Students will be able to use information and information technologies ethically and legally	Final exam Final project Citation elements of multiple assignments

Brief Outline of Course:

The outline may change based upon the instructor, modality or term.

Information Sources

Source types, characteristics of information and information creation processes. Includes the peer-review process, news cycles and information timelines. Introduction to scholarly communication, authority and evaluating information resources. Google Scholar and subscription reference resources are introduced.

Information Need

Exploring the facets of a research question or information need and relating sources. Differences between primary and secondary sources in discipline-specific contexts.

Information formats found in Library Search (Primo) discovery system.
Basics of searching, including scopes, limiters, and refining a search.

Organization of Information

Library resources (including subscription databases and physical collections) vs. the Free Web. Basic principles of search engine indexing and searching.

Midterm

Searching and Finding

Basics of database searching: keyword searching, subject searching and controlled vocabulary, Boolean operators, truncation, phrase searching.

Searching for known items: parts of a citation, field searching in Academic Search Premier.

Government Information Resources

Evaluating websites, URL analysis. Using USA.gov to find agency information, Science.gov, statistical resources including American Factfinder (US Census). Other resources may be introduced according to a class theme or instructor preference.

Using Information Ethically

Plagiarism, intellectual property and copyright.

Final Exam/Project

General Education Category and Outcomes:

This General Education Gateway course addresses the following outcomes:

- Learn and use the vocabulary, content, and conceptual knowledge in a variety of disciplines (CONTENT KNOWLEDGE)
 - Students are introduced to basic information literacy skills and concepts, addressing the characteristics of information, including a variety of information formats and sources. The course provides a basis for topic exploration, and gives students practical experience using basic information access tools, identifying key vocabulary for a topic. The course instructs students in criteria for evaluating information and information sources in relation to academic and personal information needs, and gives basic instruction in the ethical and responsible use of information.
- Employ approaches to inquiry from a variety of disciplines (INQUIRY)
 - Students in LIB 127 engage in the inquiry process through a topic of personal interest.
 - To explore the topic and retrieve information relevant to the student's informational need students use research process skills, construct questions to focus their investigation, identify key search terms, develop strategic search processes, and use appropriate technologies

University Writing Requirement Outcomes: N/A

Academic Misconduct Policy:

Eastern Oregon University places a high value upon the integrity of its student scholars. Any student found responsible for an act of academic misconduct (including but not limited to cheating, unauthorized collaboration, fabrication, facilitation, plagiarism or tampering) may be subject to having his or her grade reduced in the course in question, being placed on probation or suspended from the University, or a combination of these. (Please see the Student Handbook online at <http://www.eou.edu/sse/student-handbook/>).

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities policy:

Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation for any type of disability, please make an appointment to see me during my office hours or contact the Disability Services Office in Loso Hall, Room 234. Phone: 541-962-3081.

Syllabus Prepared By: Sarah Ralston

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