667 Advanced Database Searching                              Spring 2010

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Class office hours: Tuesdays 2:00 – 4:00 PM, Wednesdays after class and by appointment
Class hours: on Wednesdays 5:00 p.m. - 7:40 p.m.
Classroom: POST 318B

Textbook: None

Course Description
This course educates students about the software tools and information sources of advanced database searching. It includes such topics as selection of online information systems and databases, advanced techniques for index and thesaurus browsing, query formulation, expansion and refinement, traditional and autonomous citation indexing and searching, measures of the prestige, impact and popularity of databases, journals, institutions, countries and researchers, resource discovery tools, advanced Web-wide search engines and metasearch engines, federated searching, metadata and linking among publishers’ archives, abstracting/indexing databases and full-text aggregator sites. Students will be provided demonstrations of and/or access to several advanced online information systems. Prerequisite: LIS 663 Basic Database Searching.

LIS Program Learning Goals and Objectives

• Demonstrate theoretical understanding of and basic competencies in evaluating, selecting and organizing information sources;(5)
• Demonstrate theoretical understanding of and basic competencies in retrieval, dissemination, utilization and evaluation of information sources;(6)
• Apply basic competencies and knowledge that are essential for providing, managing, and designing information services in a variety of information environments;(3)
• Demonstrate basic competency in the latest specialized information technologies;(11)
• Demonstrate an understanding of the above goals within the perspective of prevailing technologies.(12)

Course Learning Objectives

• Learn about the state-of-the-art in online database searching, with emphasis on their use in support of research in academic and special libraries and information centers
• Become acquainted with the advanced and unique characteristics of bibliographic and non-bibliographic databases from a searcher's point of view
• Learn the concept of advanced search techniques and discovery of scholarly information resources
• Understand the importance of the quality, prestige, impact and popularity of information sources, and the extent of coverage of such sources by databases
• Learn about the ways and means of conducting federated searching across information sources and linking to digitally available assets.

ALA core competencies addressed:

Resource Building: creations, evaluation, selection of collections of information; storing, preserving and conserving information; (2)

Technological Knowledge: current information and communication technologies as they affect information centers, concepts and processes related to assessing and evaluating impact and efficacy of tech-based products and services, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and tools; (4)

Knowledge Dissemination—Service: concepts, principles and techniques that facilitate information access for users, interaction with users to provide consultation or guidance in use of information resources, assessment of user needs, diversity in user need. (5)
Professional Expectations
All students in the Program are expected to become familiar with and adhere to the Professional Expectations posted at http://www.hawaii.edu/lis/students.php?page=profexp

Teaching Method
- The course applies a combination of lectures, demonstrations, students' exercises and seminar like activities.
- The exercises allow students to demonstrate their database searching abilities and knowledge of the principles and issues of advanced database searching.
- Class-room activities require students to share their experience and to get reaction from others in the class.

Requirements
Reading of systems' documentation, online help information are important in addition to the articles listed in the Digital Reading List (http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/667/667-digr-sp-10.htm).

Assignments and Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Paper</td>
<td>15% of the grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term paper</td>
<td>30% of the grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>40% of the grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class activity</td>
<td>15% of the grade</td>
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Students need to be very active in the small class by making presentations, asking questions, bringing up interesting issues which relate to the topics of the course, and discussing current issues they read about or experienced in the library and are relevant to our subjects.

Schedule

1. Session  Introduction, Googling vs. Pro bibliographic and bibliometric searching
2. Session  Selecting the best software platforms & databases for the tasks/users
3. Session  Metadata, Item IDs, measures of scholarly productivity & impact
4. Session  Shepardizing - the mother of all citation searching - Guest: Roberta F. Woods, JD
5. Session  Initial paper presentations by students + discussion
6. Session  Author and named person searching
7. Session  What your mother and the publishers never told you about databases, but you must know
8. Session  Citation searching
9. Session  Topical searching
10. Session Midterm paper presentation by students + discussion
11. Session  Searching by Journals and Conference Proceedings
12. Session  Journalology, Impact Factors, Eigenfactor, and other indicators
13. Session  Searching by and about institutions and countries
14. Session  Federated Searching, Proxy Searching & PolySearching
15. Session Term paper presentations by students + discussion
16. Session The future of searching (is in the finding)