LIS 671 Digital Librarianship Syllabus Fall 2007

Dr. Peter Jacso
Office: POST Bldg. 303  Phone: none yet, please use e-mail
e-mail: jacso@hawaii.edu  (use LIS 671 in subject, please)
Home page: http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/
Class hours: on Mondays  1:00 p.m. - 3:40 p.m. Classroom: Bilger 319.
Office hours: after the sessions and on appointment

Course Description

To study –from the viewpoint of librarians and information specialists- the evolving field of digital librarianship: the roles of the librarians and other information specialists in the digital age, the types of digital collections, the digital finding tools and resources, the tools of creativity and rules of cooperative engagement in building and using digital collections, as well as the economic, legal and management issues related to digital libraries.

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

- To learn about the current state and the prospects of digital librarianship.
- To get familiar with the major projects, tools, resources and trends in digital librarianship, with emphasis on open access resources and tools.
- To understand the digital media alternatives and the essential features of software tools available for finding information efficiently, and
- To learn about creating simple Webliographies/Webguides.

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

Methodology

A combination of lectures, demonstrations, students’ presentations and class-room discussions. Active participation (not just attendance) is strongly encouraged. Questions related to the assignments are answered in class to provide the same benefit for every student.
Research Methods

- Action Research
- Content Analysis
- Evaluation Research
- Experiment
- Heuristic Evaluation
- Information Retrieval

Reading and Instructional Materials

There is no textbook, but there is content-rich digital reading list & carrel. The reading items and other instructional materials are available at [http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/671/671-digr-07-fall.htm](http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/671/671-digr-07-fall.htm). In the digital carrel the items are hot linked either to Web sites free for anyone or to articles in various ProQuest and EBSCO databases or publisher’s archives.

If you are on campus, there may be no need for user-id and password. If you are off-campus then you are asked for some of the readings to provide your UH identifiers. The digital carrel saves the drudgery of locating items of the reading list on the shelves. Use the time saved for reading about digital reference sources, and testing them. The readings complement the lectures and presentations, provide background and further information.

Software and content features discussed in reviews and other articles keep changing for better or worse. It is prudent to test the current version of a digital resource for determining its quality!

Assignments and Grading

Students shall form a group of 2-3 members for the first three assignments. The term paper is a solo project.

There will be 3 assignments to compare results from dictionaries, encyclopedias, search engines and scholarly publishers' journal/proceedings archives (70% of the grade).

For the term paper students will prepare an annotated, hyperlinked Webliography/Webguide (in HTML format) of 25-30 articles, books, conference papers, etc. related to the topic of tsunami warning. Derivative works based on existing guides are not acceptable and this principle will be vigorously enforced.

The content of the Webliography/Webguide and its organization must reflect the students' choices and opinion about the source. There are numerous tutorials on the Web about creating HTML pages. Our students’ Hui Dui workshops and/or the Keller Lab’s student lab monitors may also provide help with specific questions.

Students are urged to use a good screen capture program for the illustrations in their assignments. Snag-IT from TechSmith is one possible option, but choose what is appropriate for you as long as you can do partial screen shots.

Please see the page about the [General Guidelines for the Assignments](http://www2.hawaii.edu/~jacso/671/671-digr-07-fall.htm).
SCHEDULE

Session 1  INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW - ACCESS TO INFORMATION
Toll Access vs. Open Access
The Visible and Invisible/Hidden/Deep Web

Session 2  FINDING TOOLS - I.
Classified Web Directories
Subject Guides & Portals

Session 3  DIGITAL READY REFERENCE SOURCES - I.
Dictionaries & Encyclopedias
Almanacs, Factbooks & Atlases
Ready Reference Suites
(There is life beyond Wiktionary and Wikipedia)

Session 4  FINDING TOOLS - II.
Universal vs. Specialized Web Search Engines

Session 5  PARTIALLY & FULLY OPEN ACCESS SCHOLARLY DIGITAL COLLECTIONS
Indexing/Abstracting Databases
Publishers' Digital Collections
Digital Repositories and Archives
Digital Aggregators and Facilitators

Session 6  FINDING TOOLS - III.
Academic Search Engines
Google Scholar, Windows Live Academic, Scirus
Scitopia, Worldwide Sciences

Session 7  DIGITAL READY REFERENCE SOURCES - II
OCLC WorldCat, Amazon "LIB" & "SIB", A9,
Google Books, Microsoft Books, Questia

Session 8  FINDING TOOLS - IV.
MetaSearching, Federated Searching, Proxy Searching

Session 9  TOOLS OF CREATIVITY & COOPERATION
Objects, Digital Identifiers & Metadata
The Power of Linking in Practice

Session 10  DIGITAL READY REFERENCE SOURCES - III.
Field trip

Session 11  Non-book Directories & Catalogs
Review Collections & Consumer Guides
Biographies

Session 12  Discussion of Term Paper Issues
FINDING TOOLS V.
Citation Based Searching

Session 13  MANAGEMENT, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC & LEGAL ISSUES IN DIGITAL LIBRARIANSHIP

Session 14  THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL LIBRARIANSHIP