

**LIS 680
Seminar for Beginning School Librarians
Fall 2009**

Welcome!

This one-credit course meets for five sessions—9/19, 10/3, 10/17, 11/14 and 11/21. Seminars run from 1:00 to 3:40 pm. The first session will be held on the Manoa campus; remaining session locales will be announced later.

Instructors

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Course Description

This is a series of five seminar meetings focusing on topics and issues of primary interest to beginning school library media specialists. Participants will have opportunities to share experiences and to use problem-solving strategies in areas they identify as being of high priority. The goal is to assist entry-level librarians in developing the skills and a support network that will ultimately help them create effective library programs and services in their schools.

Requirement

The student is generally a first or second-year school library media specialist. This is intended as an in-service seminar. For LIS graduate students, who are taking LIS 696 as an on-the-job practicum experience, LIS 680 is a required course that must be taken concurrently with the practicum.

Core Competencies Addressed

- Professional ethics
- Resource building
- Knowledge accumulation—education and lifelong learning
- Institution management

For a fuller description of each core competency, refer to the LIS website
<http://www.hawaii.edu/lis/program.php?page>

Program Learning Objectives

This seminar addresses the following objectives of the LIS Program enabling students to

- Apply basic competencies and knowledge that are essential for providing, managing, and designing information services in a variety of information environments
- Demonstrate basic competencies required for instructional program development in particular information environments

- Demonstrate an understanding of research techniques and methods of applying new knowledge as it becomes available
- Demonstrate the professional attitudes and interpersonal and interdisciplinary skills needed to communicate and collaborate with colleagues and information users.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the above goals within the perspective of prevailing and emerging technologies

In addition, faculty incorporate their research findings in the courses they teach.

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>

Seminar Objectives

In this seminar course participants will:

- Freely exchange thoughts and feelings on topics and issues of immediate concern in their respective school library media centers.
- Discuss and implement effective interpersonal communication and group dynamics skills in their respective work environments.
- Apply a problem-solving process that includes creating a vision, identifying a goal, assessing the current status in relation to the goal, examining alternative strategies to achieving the goal, and drafting an action plan that includes techniques and instruments for assessment.
- Analyze factors affecting the change process in their respective school situations.
- Build a collegial support network for continuing professional and personal renewal.

Teaching Philosophy

The instructors believe that effective practice grows from opportunities to a) engage in thoughtful discussions and group as well as individual problem solving, b) link research and practice, and c) reflect on practice. To achieve these ends, the instructors include discussions, cooperative problem-solving, hands-on activities, and electronic journal writing in the course.

Texts

There are no required texts. Resources will be made available based on the needs of seminar participants.

Research Methods

The following research methods are incorporated in assignments: critical incident analysis and instructional design. Depending on needs expressed, other methods such as action research and survey research are also incorporated.

Seminar Structure

Each session will be approximately three hours in length. The sessions will be organized around three foci:

- Talk story time—opportunities to informally share concerns and highlights of ongoing experiences.

- Management and program issues—opportunities to discuss key functions of the library and to exchange ideas on efficient and effective management techniques and program practices.
- Planning—opportunities to apply problem solving to a specific library goal.

Assignments and Grading

The seminar will be graded as Credit/No credit. To receive credit, participants must:

1. Compose electronic journal entries during the duration of the seminar course. Deadlines will be set at the first session.
2. Attend all sessions in entirety.
3. If other assignments are mutually agreed upon, complete them on time.

Tentative Schedule

Session	Date	Topics
1	9/19/09	Talk story: what's on your mind? Planning: building goals for our libraries. Management and programs: managing time and setting priorities.
2	10/3/09	Talk story: what's on your mind? Management and services: topics to be determined by group. Planning: selecting goals to work on and deciding how to assess them.
3	10/17/09	Talk story: what's on your mind? Management and services: topics to be determined by group. Planning: considering strategies, developing an action plan.
4	11/14/09	Talk story: what's on your mind? Management and services: topics to be determined by group. Planning: continue development of action plans.
5	11/21/09	Talk story: what's on your mind? Management and programs: topics to be determined by group. Planning: share action plans. Celebrating and reflecting.