Fall 2010 Syllabus

SLIS 5210/4210
Organization and Control of Information Resources I

University of North Texas
College of Information
Department of Library & Information Sciences

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"...cataloging and classification are two of the fundamental branches of library science...the student learns...he [or she] is preparing for a professional, not a clerical position."

"The study of these branches involves problems requiring the performance of a definite duty as well as the creation of a definite thing."
Margaret Mann, Introduction to Cataloging and Classification of Books, 1943

Course Description

Descriptive cataloging and subject analysis of different kinds of information resources. Anglo-American Cataloging Rules; Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems; vocabulary control; subject headings; principles and techniques of catalog construction, maintenance and use; information indexing and retrieval; use of on-line databases; representative research, problems and practice. Prerequisites): SLIS 5200 and 5710, or consent of school.
Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students will have gained a reasonably useful grasp of what is involved in providing access control for "Information Entities" or "Information Resources" in general and for library cataloging and classification in particular, such that:

- if one pursues a career in an area other than library services, one can successfully compare Information Entity (IE) or Information Resources access control in such a chosen occupational area with and even borrow from this type of access control in libraries
- if one wants to pursue a career in library technical services this course will provide a solid basis for taking one or more advanced courses in library cataloging.
- if one wishes to specialize in some other aspect of librarianship, this course will have provided a reasonably sufficient basis for understanding and using library catalogs, library catalog metadata and metadata formats, library classification schemes, and library cataloging tools.

Specific Objectives

Student will be able to:

1. express clearly several core but general theoretical concepts in providing access control over Information Entities (IE) or Information Resources;
2. express clearly several core but more specific theoretical concepts related to library cataloging and classification;
3. successfully negotiate the elementary use of several key tools in library cataloging and classification, including the
   - Library of Congress Subject Heading (LCSH) controlled vocabulary,
   - Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system
   - Library of Congress Classification (LCC) system
   - MARC Bibliographic data format, and the
   - Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (2nd ed., revised, 2002 edition, plus amendments).*

   * This includes working with Cataloger's Desktop software.
4. understand for himself or herself the "system of ideas and practices" that make up library cataloging and classification.

Syllabus Revision

This syllabus may be revised during the semester at the instructor's discretion. The syllabus document does not represent a contract between the instructor and the student.

Late Work
Late work is not permitted unless prior arrangements are made with the course instructor.

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**Academic Misconduct**

The UNT Graduate Catalog includes the following under Academic Misconduct:
The term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to, (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources specifically prohibited by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments; (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university.
The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement. Plagiarism also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.
Penalties for academic misconduct range from reducing the grade for a test or assignment to revoking an academic degree already granted. Penalties and the appeals process are explained in the UNT Graduate Catalog and the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

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**Resources and Materials Needed**

You may contact the UNT bookstore (940-565-2592) for the first two titles (possibly in a used edition) or you may purchase them from Amazon.com, textbooks.com or directly from the publisher.

- Miksa, S.D. (2006). *SLIS 5210 Lessons*. (These are built into the course website and are linked from the homepage.) **(REQUIRED)**

The following titles will be available through several online resources:

Library of Congress Classification, Schedule H. Washington, DC, Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service. (REQUIRED; available through Classification Web, instructor will provide log-in name and password)

Library of Congress Subject Headings. Latest version. Washington, DC, Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service. (REQUIRED; available through Classification Web, instructor will provide log-in name and password) Copies of the printed books should be available at local public libraries and we have copies available in the SLIS Graduate Access Lab here on campus—but these will most likely not be the latest editions. Alternatively, you may search subject headings using LC Authorities (http://authorities.loc.gov/) but keep in mind this will not show the structure of the thesaurus, only the subject heading authority records.

Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index. 22nd ed. (REQUIRED; some scanned selections will be provided by instructor, but we also have access to WebDewey via OCLC’s Connexion, instructor will provide log-in name and password) (NOTE: We will get to this resource if there is time left at the end of the semester)

ADA Accommodation

The School of Library and Information Sciences is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the School of Library and Information Sciences will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline.

Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

Important Notice for F-1 Students

To read INS regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to this website http://www.ice.gov/sevis/regs/8cfr214_2f.htm and read "8
Activities

There are seven assignments to be completed individually:

Assignments

- **Exercise 1**: Information Entity "Universe" and AACR2r Chapters
- **Exercise 2, pts. 1-2**: Describing Information Entities according to AACR2r, Name and Title Access Points
- **Exercise 3, pts. 1-2**: Subject Analysis and Access, LCSH Conversion practice
- **Exercise 4, pt. 1**: Classification using LCC
- **Final Paper**: Students will write a 10-12 page research paper on a topic to be determined.

Assignment submission: All assignments will be completed by individually and submitted to the course Assignment Dropbox.

Assignments should be completed in Microsoft Word and be saved with the ".doc" extension. **File names should have the following format**: Ex#Name.doc (For example, Exercise 1 submitted by me would be "Ex1Miksa.doc").

All due date times that are listed are Central Standard Time (CST).

There will also be two "in-class" assignments throughout the semester — Activity A and Activity B. The on-campus section will turn-in these assignments the same day they are given. Online sections of the course will submit these assignments to the appropriate discussion area by the dates noted on the Course Calendar/Schedule of Activities.

**Discussion Questions—Fall and Spring semesters only!!** Over the course of the semester questions will be posted in the Discussion Area for which each student will post an individual response. These questions will also be discussed during weekly class meetings.

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Evaluation
Final Paper 35%
Assignments 50%
Participation 15%

Participation grade is based on class participation, completion of Activities A & B and the Discussion Questions, and chat attendance (online section only).

*Online section only*: Each student is required to attend at least two (2) chats during the semester. If you are unable to meet this requirement, you must alert the course instructor as soon as possible.

Graded assignments will be returned approximately one week after the submission date.