SLIS 5000
Information and Knowledge Professions
COURSE INFORMATION
SLIS 4000/5000 Information and Knowledge Professions
Spring, 2014

Instructor Contact Information
Xin Wang, PhD
Lecturer
Department of Library and Information Sciences
College of Information
University of North Texas
Email: xin.wang@unt.edu
Telephone: 940-369-5983
Mail address: #296L Discovery Park
3940 North Elm, Suite C232 Denton, TX 76203-5017

Michelle Farabough, MSKM
Teaching Assistant
Email: MichelleFarabough@my.unt.edu

Office Hours
Wednesday 1 to 2 p.m. and by appointment.
Please email Dr. Wang in advance to schedule an individual meeting.

Reading Materials
1) There are required readings for each of the nine modules. Required readings are listed on
the Blackboard course website; they are either directly linked from the website or can be found
through the UNT Electronic Library (http://www.library.unt.edu/).
**The first printing contains errors. Look for the second printing (7/20/2009, copyright 2010) or later.
Course Description

3 hours. This course examines the history, roles and scope of the information and knowledge professions. Basic concepts and issues, including impact of information technology on the individual, intellectual freedom, privacy and diversity, are discussed. Legal and ethical aspects of managing information and knowledge organizations are examined. Course activities emphasize team building and leadership skills.

Upon completion of this course, students will have:
- Developed a basic understanding of the scope of the information professions
- Acquired a knowledge of the history of information and library sciences
- Examined ethics, values, norms, and foundational principles of the LIS profession
- Investigated current and emerging issues in information and library sciences and their impact on information professions
- Gathered an understanding of the role and attributes of an effective LIS professional
- Gained knowledge about the impact of technology on individuals, society and the information profession

Learning Modules:
SLIS 5000 is organized into 9 Learning Modules:
- Module 1: The Library and Information Sciences Field
- Module 2: Libraries and Information Centers
- Module 3: Library and Information Sciences Pioneers
- Module 4: The Library and Information Sciences Professional
- Module 5: Library and Information Sciences Ethics
- Module 6: Serving a Diverse and Global Society
- Module 7: Impact of Technology on Individuals and Society
- Module 8: Impact of Technology on Information Centers and Information Professionals
- Module 9: Trends in Library and Information Sciences

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance (5% of total grade)
Student attendance and punctuality are basic requirements for an effective learning experience. Students are expected to prepare for each class session by completing Module readings and thoughtfully considering the week’s discussion question. If a student cannot attend a scheduled class meeting, the student must let the instructor know in advance and obtain instructor approval. Please email both Dr. Wang and Ms. Farabough in this regard. Failure to notify will result in an unexcused absence. Given that the absence was an emergency (e.g., sickness), the student absence will be excused after related documents (e.g., doctors’ medical reports) are presented.
2. Module Activities (40% of total grades)

- **Discussion Activity (10% of total grade).** Students’ contribution to class discussions will be assessed and reflected in the discussion activity score. To achieve the full score for discussion activity, students should participate in classroom discussion, respond to the Module discussion question (350 words or more) posted on Blackboard. Students are encouraged to respond to classmate postings on the discussion forum. Postings should be based upon and refer (i.e., provide an APA-style reference) to Module reading(s).

- **Discussion Leader (3% of total grade).** Students are required to sign-up and serve two (2) times during the semester as a Module discussion leader. Responsibilities include selecting an article from among those assigned for the Module, and then leading a discussion about the article. Students are responsible for classroom activity and PPT slides. Detailed instructions posted in Blackboard. A sign-up sheet will be provided for scheduling these activities.

- **Article Critiques (12% of total grade).** Students are required to post a 350 words (minimum length) critiquing on one reading for each module. This is a reflection on what you’ve read and learned, not merely a summary of the reading’s content. Students should post their article critique to the appropriate discussion forum. **Note:** You will see the article critiques of the other members of your discussion group, and can respond to them.

- **Module Assignments (15% of total grade, 5% each).** The format of module assignments will vary, ranging from a short essay to a case study according to the specific objectives and outcomes associated with each module. Students will find detailed instructions for the module assignment for each module on course Blackboard site. **NOTE:** In addition to the Module 3 group project (see below), students must complete THREE (3) assignments of their choice from the remaining eight (8) assignments. Each assignment should be submitted by the stated due date via Blackboard using the submission tool under the “Assignments & Submissions” tab.
  - All papers should include a title page with name, date, title, and a running header with page numbers.
  - Papers should be double-spaced; the use of headings to introduce major topics/sections is encouraged. (See APA Manual 3.03.)
  - Writing should be at the graduate level. (See Chapter 3 in the APA Manual for guidance.) **NOTE:** UNT provides a virtual writing lab as a helpful resource to students.
  - **File names should use this format:** Last Name_First Initial_Assignment. **Example:** Smith_A_Module 3 Assignment

3. Group Project (5% of total grade)

See Module 3 on course Blackboard site. Students are required to present their group project in the classroom. One person from each group will post a final PowerPoint to the discussion board by the stated due date. Further details will be explained in the classroom.
4. Leadership Project (10% of course grade)
Each student will participate in one of the following leadership activities. **NOTE: The activity must be new for you, and you must complete the activity during the semester.**

- Join at least one LIS professional organization and take on a leadership role.
- Design and give an information-related presentation to a group of **professional peers or other adult audience**. For example, reading a story to children will not work. Presenting a new story time technique to librarians will.
- Join and actively participate in at least one electronic listserv or a social networking site (e.g., Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.) group or community whose focus is library and information science profession leadership.
- Join a committee and take on a leadership role/become a committee chair of an LIS professional organization. Example: take a leadership role in a student chapter of an information organization like UNT-LISSA or NT-ASIS&T.
- Propose another type of activity that demonstrates leadership growth.

Students will submit their leadership activity idea to the instructor by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, **February 28**, 2014 via the discussion forum (3% of course grade). Once the activity is approved, they can proceed with the activity. Finally, before the end of the class, they will post a 250-word summary of their project with lessons learned (7% of course grade) by 11:50 p.m. CST on Friday, **May 2**, 2014. This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn more about your area of interest and to expand your professional network.

5. Mid-term paper (15% of final grade)
For this course students are required to write a midterm paper and a final term paper that serve as an in-depth examination of a topic touched upon in this class. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Knowledge management
- Electronic media and copyright issues
- Digital divide
- Content control and censorship
- Privacy: legal, ethical and policy issues
- Economics of information
- Library leadership issues

The mid-term paper is an annotated bibliography that will assist the writing of the final term paper. For this assignment students must list annotations alphabetically by author’s last name, using APA style bibliographic format. The annotated bibliography should include at least eight (8) sources relevant to the topic you have chosen. A minimum of five sources must be from peer-reviewed journals. **NOTE: Be sure to select sources that present differing viewpoints relative to your topic.** Each annotation should: 1. Describe the content, 2. Evaluate the content, and 3. Tell why the source was selected. No more than half (1/2) of the sources may be from class readings. See examples linked under “Course Content” on Blackboard. The midterm paper should be submitted to Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. CST on Friday, **March 14**, 2014.
6. Final term paper (25% of final grade)

The final term paper is a literature review. The paper should have an abstract of 150-200 words that includes a concise summary of the key points of your paper. Begin with an introduction, explaining the scope of your topic to familiarize your audience with the focus of your paper. The literature review should utilize the 10-15 sources in total and you may choose 4-5 best sources from your annotated bibliography. Discuss the topic based on an analysis and synthesis of the sources. Since a review of the literature is a scholarly discussion around a particular topic, it is important to bring in sources that present differing viewpoints. Compare and contrast the content and provide a final perspective and conclusion. Your reference list should appear at the end of your paper. Follow APA style for your in-text citations and references. The length of your final term paper should be 2000 - 2500 words, excluding references.

The literature review final term paper should be submitted to Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. CST on Friday, May 2, 2014.

COMMUNICATIONS
Course announcements and information will be posted under “Announcements”; added as a separate thread under “General Class Discussion” in the “Discussions” forum; or sent directly to students in an email message.

If students have questions that might be of interest to other students, they are encouraged to should post them in the “General Class Discussion” thread under the “Discussions” tab. It is likely that someone else has the same question. If a student prefers, questions can be sent via email to the instructor and the TA.

ASSESSMENT & GRADING
See information under “Course Requirements” (above) for information about assignments and grading. Assignment grading is based on rubric attached to each assignment description on Blackboard.

Grading Percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module Activities (Discussion Questions–10%; Discussion Leader–3%; Article Critiques–12%; Assignments 15%–5% each for 3 assignments)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership Project</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Paper (Annotated Bibliography)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Term Paper (Review of the Literature)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Grading Scale
The UNT scale for grading is as follows:
- A = 90 - 100 points
- B = 80 - 89 points
- C = 70 - 79 points
- D = 60 - 69 points
- F = 59 points and below

COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change at instructor’s discretion)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classroom Meeting</th>
<th>Modules</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>MLK Day (no class)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>Module 1</td>
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<td>February 3</td>
<td>Module 2</td>
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<td>February 10</td>
<td>Module 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>Module 3 Group Presentations for Module 3 Assignment in Classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>Module 4 Leadership project proposal due Friday, February 28 by 11:59 p.m. CST</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>Mid-term Review Mid-term paper is due Friday, March 14 by 11:59 p.m. CST</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Spring Break! Recharge your energy! (No Class) Complete mid-semester course evaluation in Blackboard</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>Module 5</td>
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<td>March 24</td>
<td>Module 6</td>
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<td>March 31</td>
<td>Module 7</td>
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<td>April 7</td>
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<td>April 14</td>
<td>Module 8</td>
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<td>April 21</td>
<td>Module 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>Pre-finals Week Leadership summary is due Friday, May 2 by 11:59 p.m. CST.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Final term paper is due Friday, May 2 by 11:59 p.m. CST.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline</td>
<td>Activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>Module 1 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>Module 1 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 9</td>
<td>Module 2 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 13</td>
<td>Module 2 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>Module 3 Group Project-final PowerPoint Slides</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>Group Project Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>Leadership Project proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>Module 4 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>Module 4 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
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<td>March 14</td>
<td>Midterm Annotated Bibliography paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>Module 5 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Module 5 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Module 6 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 3</td>
<td>Module 6 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
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<td>April 6</td>
<td>Module 7 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
<td>Module 7 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>Module 8 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>Module 8 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Module 9 Discussion postings &amp; Article Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Module 9 Assignment (if you select this assignment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Leadership Project summary</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Final term paper</td>
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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS / ASSISTANCE

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspects of the course. The University Information Technology (UIT) Helpdesk offers helpful resources and addresses any issues that might arise with Blackboard Learn.
http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/

1. Be sure you are using a supported web browser:
   Commonly used 3rd party plug-ins you may need to install for this course:
   • Acrobat Reader
   • Real Player
   • Flash
   • Shockwave
   • Windows Media Player
   • The above are accessible via http://remedy4.ars.unt.edu:8080/rkm/viewdoc.jsp?doc=372&sid=17234&type=Published&terms=quick_searchTerms&user=Self%20Help

2. Additional help for using Blackboard Learn:
   The UIT Helpdesk recommends using Java version 7 update 10.
   You will need word processing software such as Word 2010. Acceptable file formats include .txt, .rtf, .doc, and .docx.

3. Student Support
   The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
   Website: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/
   Phone: 940.565-2324
   In Person: Sage Rm. 130
   Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website for updated hours.

ACCESS & NAVIGATION

• Access and Log in Information
   This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Blackboard Learn. To get started with the course, please go to: https://learn.unt.edu/.
   You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: https://ams.unt.edu/.
• **Blackboard Learn Student Orientation**
  As a student, you will have access to the “Blackboard Learn Student Orientation” tutorial via Blackboard Learn. You are strongly encouraged to become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the student orientation to better equip you to navigate the course.

• **Accessing Grades**
  As assignments are graded, grades will be posted in the class grade book. Effort will be made to complete grading and post grades expeditiously, so please be patient. If a student has a question about a grade, please consult the rubric first before contacting the instructor.

• **Assignment Submission Instructions**
  Please do not wait until the last minute to post assignments as technical problems may occur.

• **Participation / Discussion / Attendance**
  Discussions and class participation are an important part of the class and there will be discussion questions for all modules except Module 3. Discussion posts should adhere to the principles in the “Guide to Success.” Please use proper web etiquette in discussions. These links may be useful:
  - [http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Class/che326ff/discussion_board/etiquette.pdf](http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Class/che326ff/discussion_board/etiquette.pdf)
  - [http://online.uwc.edu/technology/oniEtiquette.asp](http://online.uwc.edu/technology/oniEtiquette.asp)

**COURSE EVALUATION**

All courses at UNT provide the student with an opportunity to evaluate the teaching effectiveness. Typically, the Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) will be available 10 days before the end of class. It can be accessed from a student’s MyUNT page. NOTE: The survey closes at the end of the term!

**SCHOLARLY EXPECTATIONS**

All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical, particularly at the graduate level, to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. Work submitted at the graduate level is expected to demonstrate higher-order thinking skills and be of significantly higher quality than work produced at the undergraduate level.

**RESOURCES**

• UNT Portal: [http://my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu)
• General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at: http://www.gacl.unt.edu/
• UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users: http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access
• UNT Computing and Information Technology Center: https://citc.unt.edu/help-support/students

COURSE POLICIES

• Assignment Policy
  Please use the academic calendar included here as the official due date repository. Additional information on assignments can be found in the modules.

• Late Work
  All students are expected to submit their module activities and other assignments by the due date. This prevents students from getting too far behind in the course and allows the instructor to assign grades in a consistent manner. Assignments are due by 11:59 PM (midnight) on the date due. If an extenuating circumstance such as a medically diagnosed illness or family emergency arises, request an extension prior to the due date in a professional and effective manner. Contact the instructor and TA via Blackboard e-mail. For those who do not complete their module activities by 11:59 PM on date due (also do not request for an extension in advance) will be penalized 2% of the module activity for each date late unless there are extenuating circumstances. Other major assignments (Leadership Project, Mid-term Paper, and Final-term Paper) received after the due date will incur a 3% deduction penalty for each day late unless there are extenuating circumstances.

• Incompletes
  An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. The student must arrange with the instructor to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements. Please refer to http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/academic-record-incomplete.html for more information.

• Copyright Notice
  Some or all of the materials on this course website may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. Additional copyright information may be located at: http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies.
• **Syllabus Change Policy**
The information in this document is intended for students taking SLIS 4000.002 or SLIS 5000.002 Spring, 2014. The instructor will use this syllabus as a guide in offering the course and will notify the class if changes occur.

• **Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties**
The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty that prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UNT Student Help Desk at 940.565.2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

**UNT POLICIES**

• **Academic Honesty Policy**
You are encouraged to become familiar with the University's Policy of Academic dishonesty found in the Student Handbook via the [Division of Student Affairs](#). The content of the Handbook applies to this course. If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with me before you complete any requirements of the course.

• **ADA Policy**
*The University of North Texas is committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 – The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.* As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found [here](#). Also, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation in Sage Hall (room 167) or call them at (940) 565-4323. Let your instructors know if you have a certified disability that requires accommodation.

• **Add/Drop Policy**
Please refer to the [UNT Registrar’s Office website](#) regarding the Add/Drop Policy.

• **Code of Conduct**
Please refer to the [UNT Dean of Students Office website](#) regarding the Student Code of Conduct Policy.
Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses:

Federal Regulation
To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at “Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G)” and can be found buried within this document: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=8&PART=214&SECTION=2&TYPE=TEXT
The paragraph reads:

(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student’s physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student’s full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance
To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.
If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:
(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.
Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Special thanks go to Dr. Suliman Hawamdeh, Dr. Phil Turner, Dr. Guillermo Oyarce, Dr. Shawne Miksa, Dr. Barbara Schultz-Jones, and Dr. Jeonghyun (Annie) Kim who contributed to the development of SLIS 5000.