Course Profile: Arts/Museum Librarianship

Course Number: LIS 7085

Credits: 1

Prerequisite(s): LIS 6120

Rationale for Inclusion in Curriculum:

The course addresses the study and investigation of fundamental concepts concerning fine arts and museum work as a librarian. It reviews the basic literature and bibliographic foundations of the fine arts disciplines. The scholarship of fine arts and museum studies is integral to successful practice in fine arts environments and museums. This course addresses how fine arts and museum librarians use the scholarship of the disciplines with the scholarship of their profession.

This course is one of the three required courses in the Arts and Museum Librarianship (AML) certificate program provides students with the education and practical experience necessary for building, organizing, managing, and promoting library collections in music, art, art history, dance, film studies, theater, and communication. Students gain experience working collaboratively with senior librarians and discipline-based staff and actively participate in the development of projects and services using digital technology to support their work.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the philosophical and theoretical principles of fine and performing arts and museum librarianship.
2. Use the terminology and vocabulary of the specialization.
3. Identify the major types of such libraries, archives, museums, and information centers, understanding the various internal and external functions.
4. Have an in-depth familiarity with resources and technologies relating to fine and performing arts and museum collections.
5. Be able to analyze subject specific literature as well as professional library literature for additional study.
6. List and describe current issues and challenges confronting the specialization.
7. Understand the professional's relationships within the parent institution, the community, and various professional associations.
8. Develop effective programs and community outreach services for a fine or performing arts organization or museum.
9. Clarify personal career goals and opportunities.
Content:

An in-depth view of arts and museum librarianship, concentrating on its relationship to:
1. Subject and disciplinary knowledge and scholarship
2. Professional library skills such as reference services, collection development, community outreach, etc.
3. Administration and management of fine and performing arts libraries and museums.
4. Special issues such as preservation and conservation, including the care and identification of rare books, preservation and care of multimedia and electronic resources.
5. Community outreach including public relations, marketing and professional advocacy.

Course Methodology:

Lectures, readings, class discussions, oral presentations, guest speaker(s) and, where appropriate, tours of fine and performing arts/museum libraries and/or archives.

Basis for Evaluation of Student Performance:

1. Research paper
2. Examinations
3. Oral Presentation
4. Participation/discussion

Text: Selected by Instructor

Approved: 1/12
Updated: 8/13