Course Profile: Social Sciences Information Services and Resources

Course Number: LIS 7130

Credits: 1

Prerequisite(s): LIS 6010, LIS 6080, and LIS 6120

Rationale for Inclusion in Curriculum:
The social sciences encompass a broad field of study and research, yielding more than one-third of scholarly publishing in the world. Information generated in the social science disciplines is embodied in a vast array of printed and non-print sources, multi-media, and interactive sources, some of which is not cataloged or indexed. The resources are sought constantly by people of all ages and occupations, on both the lay and specialist level. Knowledge of the informational apparatus of the social sciences is indispensable for providing professional service in any type of library.

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of the course, students will be able to:
1. Understand the dynamic structure of broad social science disciplines and their role in society
2. Identify, select, and utilize key print and non-print sources in the various disciplines
3. Investigate, identify, and effectively serve the information needs of users of all types
4. Identify social science terms, concepts, theories, and methods as well as evaluate the production and means and methods of disseminating knowledge
5. Search, select, classify, analyze, and evaluate bibliographical, statistical, and other types of data and information generated by social scientists of value to other researchers, professionals, policy makers, and the general public
6. Assemble and present reference search findings using social science tools and formats

Content:
Literature about and bibliography of the social sciences; organization, structure and format of social sciences sources; issues and trends in social science librarianship

Course Methodology:
Lectures, readings, discussions and presentations; problem sets; pathfinders, annotated bibliographies and bibliographic essay. Recorded or live guest speakers; independent or group site visits.
Bases for Evaluation of Student Performance:

Consistent and active participation in synchronous and asynchronous class presentations and discussions; group or team participation, and timely submittal of quality assignments.

Text:  As selected by instructor

Approved: 1/12
Updated: 8/13