

**See below for NEW WEBSITE BLURB**

Course Profile: Access to Information

Course Number:INF6120

Credits:3

Prerequisite(s):

INF 6010 and 6080 or concurrently

Rationale for Inclusion in Curriculum:

This course introduces students to the structure and organization of knowledge (both print and nonprint) for the purposes of research and information provision. It covers the communication skills required to interact successfully with information seekers to meet their information needs in both physical and virtual information environments. The course also addresses the philosophy and procedures of database construction, information retrieval, including the basics of searching, Online Public Access Catalogs (OPACs), licensed databases, and the Internet.

Competencies Expected:

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

- 1.Explain the structure of print and nonprint reference sources
- 2.Demonstrate Boolean search logic and its relationship to successful search strategies
3. Understand the stages of information negotiation and provision in physical and virtual environments
4. Develop search strategies, perform searches through the translation of search questions into queries that will utilize print and nonprint resources
4. Identify major concepts concerning the reference functions: goals, direct and indirect services, instruction, and information services
- 5.Understand the relationship between the reference function of the library and other library operations
- 6.Evaluate reference services and print and nonprint sources for information provision, collection maintenance and development.

Content:

Communication for information provision and query negotiation; Interactions with varied and diverse user categories; Search principles and the development of search strategies; Introduction to and evaluation of print and nonprint research and information sources; Organization and administration of reference department.

Course Methodology:

During the term, class sessions may include some or all of the following: Readings, class discussions, guest speakers, problem sets, site visits, lectures, scholarly and professional readings, critical viewing and response to streaming video presentations, quizzes, extensive observation of reference transactions, virtual reference interactions, and face-to-face interviews with professional reference staff.

Basis for Evaluation of Student performance (representative types of evaluation):

Class participation and attendance; reference observation; research and source type assignments; searching assignments; group presentations.

Text:

To Be Determined

Approved

Date: xx/2013

**ALSO-**

**NEW Website blurb for this page:**

**<http://sis.wayne.edu/students/classes/descriptions.php>**

**Development of interpersonal communication skills to increase effectiveness in response to users' information needs; Effective search strategies for all types of research and information based queries, Reference function of the library including print and electronic sources.**