THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

LSC 557-01: Libraries and Information in Society

Fall 2012

Course Syllabus

Mondays, 4:10pm-6:40pm

Classroom: O’Boyle, Room 106

Note: This syllabus is subject to change

3 Credit Hours
No Prerequisites

Instructor: Renate Chancellor, Ph.D.  Office: 248 Marist Hall
Voice: 202-319-6272  Email: chancellor@cua.edu
Office Hours: Mondays, 1pm-3pm and by appointment

Course Description
Introduction to the nature of information, the role of libraries, and the profession of librarianship in contemporary society. This course incorporates historical developments, current trends, and the outlook for the future. Emphasis will be placed on the values, principles, legal, and ethical responsibilities of the profession which provides a foundation for each student’s ongoing professional development and leadership.

Instructional Methods
Online discussions and course materials will be available through Blackboard Learn at: https://blackboard.cua.edu/webapps/login/

This course uses a variety of instructional methods and activities that include:
Lecture and discussion based on the readings
Small group discussions
Student presentations
Collaborative learning
Feedback to and from the instructor

Required Text

Optional Supplementary Texts

Supplementary Resource
OWL at PURDUE is a useful website for general APA Guidelines: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)

Required Technologies
The following capabilities are required for course delivery:
Blackboard; standard CUA software; CUA library and information system accounts; ability to use ALADIN digital library resources. Every student should have daily access to a computer and high speed internet access.

Tools and Technologies Taught: This course presents the concept of technological innovation as a major factor in librarianship and information professions. It does not teach the use of specific technologies.

Libraries
The CUA Libraries' wide range of resources and services, including databases, online journals, and FAQs are on the main web site. For assistance on papers and assignments, consult the research guides or schedule an appointment with a subject librarian.

Email Policy:
The official response time for email is within 48 hours - excluding weekends. However, I will usually respond to emails within 24 hours with the exception of weekends and university holidays.

Course Goals and Objectives:
The course goals are to:

- Discuss the role of information in society
- Examine the historical development of the role of information, libraries, and librarianship in society
- Understand the role of libraries, archives, museums, and other information service organizations in society
- Identify and discuss the core values and ethical principles associated with librarianship and related information professions
- Explore the impact of multicultural and diverse populations on librarians and information professionals
- Understand the policy issues related to the creation, dissemination, preservation, and use of Information

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

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical foundations of Library and information Science
2. Describe the major developments in the history of the role of libraries and librarianship in society
3. Articulate the ethics, values and foundational principles of library and information professionals and their role in the promotion of intellectual freedom
4. Identify major information-related social issues in contemporary society and describe the various perspectives that characterize current debates on those issues

Professional Standards Addressed
With respect to the curriculum objectives stated in Section II of the Standards for Accreditation of Master’s Programs in Library & Information Studies, 1992, this course addresses:

*Development of library and information professionals who will assume an assertive role in providing services* by educating students in the role of librarians in modern society

*An evolving body of knowledge that reflects the findings of basic and applied research from relevant fields* by incorporating current news and trends into the content of the course

*The needs of a rapidly changing ... society* by exploring the breadth of contexts, roles, and contributions of librarians, and the influences affecting their role in society

*Commitment to continuous professional growth* by exploring the dynamic forces at work that are continuing to change the tools and practice of librarianship, and the role of information in society

“A.8 Advises the organization on copyright and intellectual property issues and compliance.

“B.6 Develops information policies for the organization regarding externally published and internally created information resources and advises on the implementation of these policies.

“D.3 Protects the information privacy of clients and maintains awareness of, and responses to, new challenges to privacy

“D.4 Maintains current awareness of emerging technologies that may not be currently relevant but may become relevant tools of future information resources, services or applications.”

Course Requirements

General Expectations for Students:

- Enroll in Blackboard Learn and check it frequently to receive communications from your instructor: https://blackboard.cua.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp
- Check Cardinal Email regularly
- Attend each class meeting, having completed all readings, and prepared to contribute substantively to discussion.
- Assignments should be submitted via “Assignments” on the date and time (typically midnight) specified on the assignment sheet unless otherwise noted.
- All assignments should be double-spaced in Times New Roman, 12-point font and created using Microsoft Word.
- Presentations are graded on the speaker’s ability to connect with the audience, organization of information, use of language, fluency, volume, use of visual aids, and adherence to time limits.
- Consistently follow the Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) (6th ed.) for formats, citations and references.
- Assignments should be proofread and submitted without grammatical and syntactical errors.
- Consult with instructor on any special circumstances that will affect your ability to perform your assignments or turn in your assignments on time.
- Incompletes will be granted only under extreme circumstances.

Expectations and policies

Academic honesty: Academic honesty is expected of all CUA students. Faculty are required to initiate the imposition of sanctions when they find violations of academic honesty, such as plagiarism, improper use of a student’s own work, cheating, and fabrication.
The following sanctions are presented in the University procedures related to Student Academic Dishonesty (from http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad/integrityprocedures.cfm): “The presumed sanction for undergraduate students for academic dishonesty will be failure for the course. There may be circumstances, however, where, perhaps because of an undergraduate student’s past record, a more serious sanction, such as suspension or expulsion, would be appropriate. In the context of graduate studies, the expectations for academic honesty are greater, and therefore the presumed sanction for dishonesty is likely to be more severe, e.g., expulsion. ...In the more unusual case, mitigating circumstances may exist that would warrant a lesser sanction than the presumed sanction.”

Please review the complete texts of the University policy and procedures regarding Student Academic Dishonesty, including requirements for appeals, at http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad/integrity.cfm and http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad/integrity.cfm.

**Other Policies or Expectations.** Note your policies or expectations (e.g. Attendance and punctuality policy, Participation expectation, note re: cell phones, timeliness on papers, form of submission of papers electronic vs. hard copy, policy on making up (or not) quizzes, tests etc.)

**Campus Resources for student support:** (e.g. add contact information for library, tutoring center, writing center, counseling center)

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss specific needs. Please contact Disability Support Services (at 202 319-5211, room 207 Pryzbyla Center) to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. To read about the services and policies, please visit the website: http://disabilitysupport.cua.edu.

**Assessment:**

| **Attendance/Class Participation (10 points):** Participation in weekly discussion is an important part of your grade and you will be evaluated on your performance. You are expected to contribute substantively to the class. Those who contribute most to the course knowledge base will receive the highest scores in this area. |
| **Current Trends Essay (2x10 =20 points):** Throughout the course, discussions will cover numerous professional issues and debates. You will be required to complete two current trends essays that will be based on these discussions. Each essay should be no more than 750 words, double-spaced and formatted in APA. Your paper should sharply focus on the topic and present your well thought-out, critical analysis. Citations from the literature should be included supporting your ideas and opinions. Instructions will be provided. **See the course schedule for due dates.** |
**Luminary Presentation (20 points):** Write a 1200-word analysis on a seminal Library or Information Science figure. Deliver a 10 minute oral presentation in class. You will sign up for the luminary on the first day of class. Instructions will be provided.

**Research Paper (30 points):** Write a research paper (approximately 7500 words, excluding reference list) in which you analyze a significant issue confronting the Library and information Science profession. Topics may be selected from areas covered in class. A topic statement must be submitted to the instructor (via email or in person) no later than September 24th.

**Group Project: Information Center Report (20 points):** In a group, select a library or information center of your choice, visit and meet with the head librarian/information professional and write a 5000-word report. You will present your findings in a 15-20 minute presentation on the last day of class. Instructions will be provided.

**Assignments**
Detailed information of assignments and projects will be distributed and available on Blackboard Learn

**Participation & Classroom Etiquette:**

In keeping with university policy, attendance is mandatory. You are expected to arrive on time for each class and be fully engaged in online discussions. It is your responsibility to get lecture notes and materials if you miss class. No make work will be allowed.

Students are expected to behave respectfully on the Blackboard Discussion Board.

**University grades:**
The University grading system is available at [http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad//gradesfull.cfm#II](http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad//gradesfull.cfm#II) for undergraduates and [http://policies.cua.edu/academicgrad//gradesfull.cfm#iii](http://policies.cua.edu/academicgrad//gradesfull.cfm#iii) for graduate students.

Reports of grades in courses are available at the end of each term on [http://cardinalstation.cua.edu](http://cardinalstation.cua.edu).

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss specific needs. Please contact Disability Support Services (at 202 319-5211, room 207 Pryzbyla Center) to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. To read about the services and policies, please visit the website: [http://disabilitysupport.cua.edu](http://disabilitysupport.cua.edu)
Assessment (Guidelines May be Adjusted by Instructor)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Participation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luminary Assignment</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>September 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Trends Essay (2x10)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>See Course Schedule</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>November 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Project and Presentation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>December 3</td>
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GRADING:

Written Assignments
To earn full points, papers must be on time; APA formatted, and demonstrates appropriate knowledge and depth of understanding of the topic. In addition, accuracy and quality of writing must be appropriate for graduate level work. Other course assignments/activities must also be on time and demonstrate the student’s knowledge and understanding of the readings.

Due Date
Assignments should be submitted in person and **NOT** uploaded on Blackboard on the specified due date. Assignments submitted after that time are considered late and will not be accepted unless prior permission is granted. Prior permission is only granted in the case of an emergency.

Grading Scale:

Final grades are calculated on point system according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95-100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>94-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>91-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>88-84</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>83-80</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>79-70</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>Below 70</td>
<td>F</td>
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University grades:
The University grading system is available at
http://policies.cua.edu/academicgrad//gradesfull.cfm#iii for graduate students.

Reports of grades in courses are available at the end of each term on
http://cardinalstation.cua.edu
Course Schedule

*This schedule is subject to change based on class needs. Additional readings may be added during the course.*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course Overview</td>
<td>Rubin, Ch. 1</td>
<td>Luminary Project Assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Libraries &amp; Information in Society</td>
<td></td>
<td>Group Project Teams Assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>View: Vodcast on APA citation and plagiarism: <code>http://rclemens.podomatic.com/entry/2007-02-04T12_43_20-08_00</code></td>
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| Week 4 9/17 | Historical Development of Libraries | Rubin, Ch. 2  
Luminary Presentations |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week 5 9/24 | The Role of Libraries and Other Information Centers in Society | Rubin, Ch. 5  
Luminary Presentations |
| Week 5 | Libraries, Information & Technology | Rubin, Ch. 6  
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<tr>
<td>10/1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Holiday - Columbus Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8</td>
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| Week 7 | Development of the Information Professions | Rubin, Ch. 3  
ALA Core Competencies. Available at: http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/careers/corecomp/ | Current Trends Essay #1 due  
Luminary Presentations |
<p>| 10/15 |  |  |  |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Library Professional Ethics &amp; Practices</th>
<th>Rubin, Ch. 10</th>
<th>Luminary Presentations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Intellectual Freedom</td>
<td>Rubin, Ch. 9</td>
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<td>Library Bill of Rights. Available at: <a href="http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutlaw/offices/oif/statementspols/statementsif/librarybillofrights.cfm">http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutlaw/offices/oif/statementspols/statementsif/librarybillofrights.cfm</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Current Trends Essay #2 due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Information Policy</td>
<td>Rubin, Ch. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
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<td>Coalition for Networked Information. Available at: <a href="http://old.cni.org/docs/infopols/ALA.html">http://old.cni.org/docs/infopols/ALA.html</a></td>
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Week 13
11/26

Leadership & Management in the Information Professions

The Future of the Information Society


| Week 14 12/3 | Wrap-Up/Group Projects | Group Presentations | Group Report & Presentation |