

Valdosta State University  
Master of Library and Information Science  
MLIS 7130 Humanities Information Services  
Syllabus--Summer 2010  
Three Credit Hours

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### Description

Examination of processes and resources used to provide reference services in the humanities disciplines. The fields of history, literature and language, music, philosophy, religion, and the visual and performing arts will be considered. Prerequisite: MLIS 7000 or consent of the instructor.

### Learning Outcomes

Students will

- Recognize humanities information-seeking behavior
- Discuss digitization in the humanities
- Utilize print and electronic resources in the humanities
- Identify key characteristics of literature and information in the humanities
- Assess information needs in the humanities
- Prepare subject guides intended for humanities undergraduate students

### Required Materials

#### *Textbook*

Blazek, Ron & Aversa, Elizabeth. *The Humanities: A Selective Guide to Information Sources*, 5th ed. Libraries Unlimited, 2000. ISBN: 1-56308-602-6 (paperback)

#### *Hardware*



Headphones with microphone for use with Live Classroom software.

#### *Readings* (on course reserves unless otherwise indicated)

Blazek, Ron and Aversa, Elizabeth. (2000). *The Humanities: A Selective Guide to Information Sources*, 5th ed. Greenwood Village, Col.: Libraries Unlimited. Pages 1-23, 27-39, 65-73, 147-156, 249-258, 391-396.

Mack, Daniel C. (2002). Chapter 5: History. In *The Social Sciences: A Cross-Disciplinary Guide to Selected Sources*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Nancy L. Herndon (ed.), Libraries Unlimited.

Stone, Sue. (1982, December). Humanities scholars: Information needs and uses. *Journal of Documentation* 38 (4): 282-312.

Reynolds, Judy. (1995). A brave new world: User studies in the humanities enter the electronic age. *The Reference Librarian* 49/50: 61-81.

Welshons, Marlo, (ed). (2006). *Our Cultural Commonwealth: The Report of the American Council of Learned Societies Commission on Cyberinfrastructure for the Humanities and Social Sciences*. ALCS: New York. Pages 1-26. (Available in BlazeView)

Wiberley, Stephen E. & Jones, William G. (1989). Patterns of information seeking in the humanities. *College and Research Libraries* 50: 638-645.

## Graded Activities

### Assignments

Subject/Bibliography Guide	60%	Due: July 12
Ready Reference	40%	Due: July 28

## Assignment Synopses

- **Subject and Bibliography Guide:** A guide to an assigned humanities subject in the Blazek/Aversa text and to the subject's current, principal sources
- **Ready Reference:** Questions gathered by reference librarians that require identifying humanities sources

## Additional Assignment Information

- Details about each assignment will be provided in a handout
- Print out and read each handout before starting
- Writing proficiency will be factored into assignments 1 and 2, where applicable
- Submit assignments in BlazeView assignment tool by 12 noon on the due dates
- Assignments submitted late automatically will lose 10 points for every 24-hour period: an assignment submitted 5 minutes late will be lowered by 10 points, one submitted 25 hours later will be reduced another 10 points, and so on.
- Special requests for an extension due to extenuating circumstances should be handled in a phone call to the instructor. Conflicts with vacations and other courses are not extenuating circumstances.
- All assignments are to be completed in order to pass the course

## Attendance

This is a Web-delivered course with no required face-to-face meetings. Attending Live Classrooms is optional, but listening to the June 10 archived session is recommended.

## Grading Scales

### General Grade Scale

- A = excellent work, among the best work seen at the graduate level
- B = satisfactory work, better than average work at the graduate level
- C = honest attempt, needs moderate to major revisions to be satisfactory
- D = unacceptable, perfunctory or missing work

### Points Grade Scale

- A = 93-100
- B = 85-92
- C = 77-84
- D = 69-76
- F = 68 and below

#### Final Grade Scale

- A = always satisfactory, often excellent
- B = mostly satisfactory, occasionally excellent
- C = sometimes satisfactory, often needs revisions
- D = rarely satisfactory, often perfunctory, late or missing
- F = lacking even an attempt to learn or do, dishonesty, plagiarism

#### Academic Honesty

Valdosta State University expects that graduate students will pursue their academic endeavors and conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner. All work that a student presents to satisfy course requirements should represent his or her own efforts, including appropriate use and acknowledgement of external sources. Specific regulations related to student conduct and behavior are contained in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Ethics.

#### Equal Opportunity Statement

VSU is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of the institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent Executive Orders as well as Title IX, Equal Pay Act of 1963, Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

#### Accommodations Statement

Valdosta State University complies fully with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Access Office for Students with Disabilities (Access Office) serves students who have documented disabilities, have met the Valdosta State University (VSU) admission criteria, and are otherwise qualified. Students requesting accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in the Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 229/245-2498 (V/VP) and 229/219-1348 (TTY).

#### Student Conduct

Behavior--emails, phone calls, and any discussion postings--is to be respectful and professional. Guidelines are specified in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Ethics. [http://www.valdosta.edu/studentaffairs/documents/SAF\\_Student\\_Handbook2009-050809.pdf](http://www.valdosta.edu/studentaffairs/documents/SAF_Student_Handbook2009-050809.pdf)

***Note:** The instructor may adapt or change this syllabus and/or the assignments according to circumstances that might arise during the semester.*