

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE
MLIS 7505 Applied Technologies in Library Practice
Syllabus--Maymester 2011
Three Credit Hours

Instructor:

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Course Description:

A survey of the technologies defining or influencing library practices with an emphasis on exemplary cases of applications. Topics will include computer workstations, automated systems, networking and telecommunications, the internet, digitization projects, program interfaces, information storage and retrieval, adaptive and assistive devices, security and privacy, and virtual user education.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Describe major types of technologies in today's libraries.
- Develop strategies for keeping pace with changing technologies.
- Report on the impacts of recent technological developments on library practices.
- Investigate examples of library applications transformed by changing technologies.

Class Activities:

Class activities include a set of readings, podcasts, streaming videos, assignments, and asynchronous online discussions. Students will complete weekly assignments that provide an opportunity to demonstrate familiarity with the course content. Assignments will provide students with conceptual and practical understanding of technologies (e.g., open source software, radio-frequency identification, wikis, social networking sites, social tagging, blogging, content management systems, digital libraries, institutional repositories) and standards used in today's libraries and information centers. Emerging technologies and standards will be examined. A set of multimedia content in the form of podcasts and streaming videos will be made available as part of course content.

Details for each week are posted in the appropriate folder on the course website. ***It is the student's responsibility to check the course calendar for DUE DATES for all class work and the weekly folders and assignment folders for all required and supplemental readings and other materials.***

Textbooks and Required Readings:

No textbook required.

Suggested Reading:

- Farkas, M. G. (2007). *Social Software in Libraries: Building Collaboration, Communication, and Community Online*. Medford: Information Today.
- Burke, J. J. (2009). *Library Technology Companion: A Basic Guide for Library Staff* (3rd ed.). New York: Neal-Schuman.
- Courtney, N. (Ed.). (2005). *Technology for the Rest of Us: A Primer on Computer Technologies for the Low-Tech Librarian*. Westport: Libraries Unlimited.

Grading:

A set of readings, assignments, and online discussions will be assigned.

Grades will be calculated as follows:

- Participation/ Leading/Moderating a Class Discussion: 10pts
- Discussion postings: 25pts
- Assignments: three individual assignments * 15pts =45pts, one group assignment *20pts = 20pts (total 65pts)

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- A 90 - 100
- B 80 - 89
- C 70 - 79
- D 60 - 69
- F 0 - 59

Assignment Submission:

- Deadlines for each graded activity are clearly stated on the MLIS 7505 Course Calendar posted on the course home page on BlazeView.
- There is a one (1) day grace period for each graded activity after its original due date: **No grace period for discussion postings**
- Missing a deadline for any graded activity may result in a reduction in grade (i.e., 10% deduction from the original mark for each day after 1-day grace period) unless a mutually acceptable alternative is arranged with the instructor.
- All assignments must be submitted via assignment drop box on BlazeView.

Course Requirements:

Participation/Leading/Moderating a Class Discussion (10 pts)

- A student will be assigned by the Instructor (students will be allowed to pick their topic of interest) to lead/moderate a discussion based on a reading on the class discussion board every week.
- The student is expected to initiate the discussion, monitor the discussion threads and respond to answers, questions, or feedback posted by other students.

Discussion postings (25 pts)

- Student should respond to questions posted by the discussion moderators.

Assignments (65 pts)

- Students will complete four assignments (3 individual assignments and 1 group assignment) that provide an opportunity to demonstrate familiarity with the course content.
- Collaboration on homework assignments is encouraged. You may consult outside reference materials, other students, or the instructor. However, all of your answers should reflect your understanding of the subject matter at the time of writing.
- Assignments will provide students with conceptual understanding of variety of library technologies and standards.

Technological Requirements:

As this is an online course that also focuses its attention on online information services, students must have almost daily access to the Internet. That access will use email and the web (through the student's browser) for class-related communication. It is expected that each student will be capable of dealing with PDF files and MS Words documents.

To meet all class requirements, you should also be prepared to: (1) check the BlazeVIEW course homepage several times a week, sometimes daily, if a course discussion is in progress; (2) keep electronic backup copies of each assignment and project you submit.

Communication

Faculty Office discussion board: The faculty office discussion board will be available for the duration of the semester. Please post course-related questions that may be relevant to your classmates on the discussion board. Please read the faculty office discussion board regularly.

If you have a personal question please send it to me via BlazeView course e-mail. Instructor checks his e-mail.

By institutional policy, instructors are asked to communicate with students online through VSU accounts (BlazeView and VSU Email). Opening and finding the BlazeView account is, therefore, required. For instructions on using a student BlazeView account, go to IT Helpdesk at <http://www.valdosta.edu/helpdesk/>.

Distance Learning Support:

To help address concerns of off-campus and online students, the library maintains the Library Services and Resources for Distance Education Student webpage at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/services/distancestudents.shtml>. If at any time you have general questions about the library or specific questions about library resources, please call the Odum Library Reference Desk at (229) 333-7149 or email at library@valdosta.edu. Chat reference is available at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/forms/disted.php>. Chat reference is available at <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/ask.shtml>.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

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 acknowledgment of external sources. Specific regulations related to student conduct and behaviors are contained in the *Student Handbook*, *Student Code of Ethics*. See <http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>. It is your responsibility to make sure you understand how to avoid breeches of academic integrity. If you are unsure about the parameters of an assignment, ask for clarification. If you need help with citations and research resources and techniques, the university provides extensive resources for students. For help please start at the Odum Library's "how to" page: <http://www.valdosta.edu/library/learn/howto.shtml>

Using SafeAssign

By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to SafeAssign, a tool within BlazeVIEW. For more information on the use of SafeAssign at VSU see SafeAssign for Students (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/SafeAssignforStudents.shtml>).

Equal Opportunity Statement

Valdosta State University 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 Act of 1974, Age Discrimination of 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). The website is <http://www.valdosta.edu/access/>

Student Agreement

Enrollment in this class signifies that the student has agreed to abide by and adhere to the policies and regulations specified above. It is understood that the instructor may adapt or change this syllabus and the assignments contained within it according to circumstances that may arise during the course of the semester.