Course Syllabus

LI 810 XZ

Research in Library and Information Science

Fall Semester 2018

Faculty: Mirah Dow
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Primary Phone: 620-341-5734
Online Course Login: canvas.emporia.edu
Credit Hours: 3
Meetings: Internet begins 8/20
Weekends: 9/7-8 and 11/9-10

Important Dates for Fall 2018

8/20 First Day of Class 8/31 Last Day to Add/Drop 11/19 Last Day to Withdraw
12/7 Last Day of Classes 12/10-14 Finals Week 12/15 Commencement
12/18 Final Grades Due
Program Goal

The goal of the SLIM Master of Library Science program is to prepare creative problem solvers who will provide proactive client-centered services in information agencies.

Catalog Description

(Prerequisite: LI 801 or concurrent enrollment.) This course provides an introduction to qualitative and quantitative research methods and their applications in library and information science. Principles and procedures for analyzing and evaluating research are introduced and students learn to be better consumers and critics of published research literature. (Required) (Approved 8/12/2015)

Course Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</th>
<th>Program Outcomes</th>
<th>Professional Values</th>
<th>ALA Core Competence(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Describe the importance of research to the practice of library and information science.</td>
<td>6, 7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6C, 7D</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Discuss ethical issues involved in conducting research.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Explain the stages of the research process.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>6A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Define the characteristics of quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>6A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Analyze, critique, and evaluate methods and findings from current library and information science literature.</td>
<td>6, 7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6B, 7D</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Approved 11/30/11

Overview

This course includes two, required face-to-face (f2f) class meetings on the above-stated weekends in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. This course will utilize the Canvas course management system throughout the semester.

Student Participation

Students are expected to stay actively engaged in this class and on time with readings and
assignments. Students are required to participate in all scheduled class sessions contributing individually, as well as in groups. Except in the case of an emergency that is immediately communicated to the professor, no incompletes will be given. Students are likely to have a variety of backgrounds and experiences. Students are likely to have a variety of different types of prior knowledge and experiences. All students are expected to welcome and value each classmate’s participation. Students are expected to be flexible, tolerant, and effective participants in this blended course delivery system.

Professor’s Responsibilities

My responsibility is to provide students with ongoing instruction, resources, strategies, and guidance as needed to facilitate intellectual, professional, and interpersonal growth. My goal is for students to experience a positive and productive learning experience during this course. It is my practice to read e-mail almost daily except on some occasions when I am traveling or when I take a day, or two, off. I expect to respond to your e-mail within 48 hours. In the rare event that I am not able to write as much as is needed, I will tell you when I will get back to you. I will send a message to the class many Mondays. This message will be posted in Canvas Announcements. The purpose of these messages is to guarantee a steady and continuous flow of instruction/information from me to students throughout the semester. Please make a practice of reading all the Monday from Mirah messages posted in Canvas, Announcements. These messages rarely require a direct response to us. In addition, it is my practice to give students feedback throughout the semester. Each student will receive scores and/or comments from me using assignment rubrics.

Student’s Responsibilities

Your responsibility is to complete all course requirements on time. It is your responsibility to diligently read and reflect on course readings and related materials and to be competent in face-to-face participation and/or with various forms of technology-assisted instruction. It is your responsibility to ask for assistance when it is needed. It is your responsibility to check your ESU email several times each week. It is your responsibility to communicate via e-mail in an appropriate manner consistent with the structure and outline of this course.

Your responsibility is to actively participate during weekend class. Face-to-face class time must be devoted to focused student participation as outlined and facilitated by the Professors. It is not in the spirit of collaborative learning to fail to give full attention to the Professors and to your fellow students. Students who are observed by the Professor in continuous, non-course related leisure surfing the web, playing games, watching videos, reading email, texting, etc., will be subject to losing class participation points.

Additional Information

- Please bring a copy of this syllabus to class with you or be able to view it online.
- Please read all the assignments at the beginning of the semester and as many times as necessary throughout the semester. It is highly recommended that you read and follow closely instructions and assignment evaluation criteria written in the assignment documents as you are doing each assignment.
- Throughout the semester, scores for each assignment will be posted in Canvas. Official final grades will be posted and can be viewed by student in ESU Buzz-IN.
Instructor Contact Information

The best way to reach Dr. Dow is by e-mail. mdow@emporia.edu

Dow Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Dow is typically in her office at SLIM (WAWL Room 417) on Tuesday through Friday. However, her schedule often includes attending meetings virtually and on-campus, traveling to regional sites for teaching, conference attendance, etc.

If you would like to visit Dr. Dow in-person, or speak to her on the telephone, it is best to schedule an appointment.

You are always welcome to call Dr. Dow at 1-800-552-4770 (SLIM Office). If she is not available, please leave a message and/or send an email message.

In the event that a virtual class meeting is needed, it will be announced in advance. Attendance will be voluntary.

Required Readings

Books


**Note:** Please own a copy of this manual and use it throughout the MLS program. Be careful not to purchase a first printing of the book as it includes many errors.


**Note:** Any edition preferably after the 3rd edition is OK.

Websites


Purdue Online Writing Lab. *APA formatting and citation guide*. Retrieved from https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

Journals

Journal articles will be noted in assignment documents as appropriate and available through ESU William Allen White Library.

Modules, Assignments & Schedule

Each assignment has an assignment instructions and evaluation document that is located in numbered Canvas Modules. Instructions indicate rationale for the assignment and what to do with emphasis on what is taught and should be learned based on the content and learning outcomes of the course. Assignment evaluation is described in terms of learning competencies and scores with stated evaluation criteria and points.

Please read all the assignments at the beginning of the semester and as many times as necessary throughout the semester.

It is highly recommended that students read and follow closely instructions and assignment evaluation criteria written in the assignment documents while doing each assignment.

Students are expected to obtain reading materials at the beginning of the semester and begin reading as soon as possible. Please read continuously throughout the semester.

Throughout the semester, scores and comments for each assignment will be posted in the Canvas Gradebook.

Please follow the schedule for assignments listed below, which will result in continuous student-faculty engagement throughout the semester.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module, Topic, Outcome, Points</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Activity &amp; Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>#1 Module</strong> Reading and Discussion Outcomes #1-#4 20 Points</td>
<td>Work on this assignment from 8/17 to 12/7.</td>
<td>Readings and questions are listed in assignment instructions.</td>
<td>Read and respond to required questions All due dates for this assignment are listed in the assignment instructions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>#2 Module</strong> In-class Participation Research topic and problem activity Outcomes #1-#5 10 Points</td>
<td>9/7-8 Classroom SLIM Room 319F</td>
<td>A class weekend Agenda is posted in Canvas. Topics, activities, and schedule are outlined.</td>
<td>All students are required to participate in-person throughout this face-to-face class session. Due: 9/7-8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>#3 Module</strong> After class written analysis, critique, evaluation of LIS research Outcome #3 and #5 10 Points</td>
<td>Work on this assignment from 9/9 to 9/24 10/16 – ESU Midterm grades are due. Mid-term grades will be based on all assignments due before 10/16.</td>
<td>Student reads and uses journal articles listed in assignment instructions and available in WAW library.</td>
<td>Demonstrate understandings of stages of the research process. Analyze, critique, and evaluate research methods and findings in published research. Due: 9/24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **#4 Module** | Work on this assignment from 9/25 to 10/22 | Student selects journal articles reporting quantitative, qualitative, and/or mixed methods research and use research-based evidence. | Use published research to make evidence-based claims about best practices and to propose/recommend change.  
**Paper Due:** 10/22  
**Poster Due:** 11/10 (in class) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **#5 Module** | 11/9-10  
Sioux Falls, S. D. | A class weekend Agenda is posted in Canvas. Topics, activities, and schedule are outlined. | All students are required to participate in-person throughout this face-to-face class session.  
**Due:** 11/9-10  
**Poster presentation on Saturday, 11/10** |
| **#6 Module** | Work on this assignment from 11/12 to 11/28. | Student reflects on her/his own participation in the mock research conference. | Student write a reflective essay.  
**Due:** 11/28 |
| **#7 Module** | Work on this assignment from 11/29 to 12/7.  
Final ESU grades will be submitted by your professor on 12/18. | Student uses Pyrczak textbook (and other required course materials) as basis for discussion of ethical issues. | Student writes a final essay (APA style).  
**Due:** 12/7 |
SLIM Technology Requirements

SLIM has specific hardware, software and network requirements for all students that are specified on the SLIM website at [http://tinyurl.com/SLIMtechnology](http://tinyurl.com/SLIMtechnology). Computer technology is integrated throughout the curriculum, including the use of Canvas, ESU’s learning management system, and use of video-conferencing software. All students must have devices, high-speed Internet access, and current software for home use that makes possible full participation in extensive course assignments. The ESU financial aid office provides details about possible funding for purchase of computer equipment at [https://www.emporia.edu/finaid/](https://www.emporia.edu/finaid/).

Grading Criteria

REQUIRED: These criteria should identify all the elements required and the degree of achievement necessary for each assignment.

SLIM Grading Scale

| 96 - 100 | A | 77 - 79 | C+ |
| 90 - 95  | A-| 74 - 76 | C  |
| 87 - 89  | B+| 70 - 73 | D  |
| 84 - 86  | B | 0 - 69  | F  |
| 80 - 83  | B-|        |     |

SLIM Grade Policy

All graduate courses required in the university-approved curricula of SLIM’s master’s programs, certificate programs, academic concentrations, and doctoral program—or their approved substitutions--must be passed with a final grade of B- or better to receive academic credit. If a student does not receive a final grade of B- or better in any or all of SLIM’s required courses, then the student will be given an academic warning and the student will be notified by SLIM administration that he or she must retake that course or those courses. In addition, if a student has a semester GPA of less than 3.0 he or she will be given an academic warning.

When a student has been given an academic warning, an administrative hold will be placed on the student’s record to block future enrollment, and the student will be removed from any
registered courses for the upcoming semester. Before the student can be enrolled, he or she is required to meet with the student’s academic advisor with the goal of developing an academic improvement plan. The administrative hold can only be released by the student’s academic advisor or by the SLIM dean upon satisfactory completion of the academic improvement plan.

If the student fails to complete the terms set forth in the academic improvement plan, then the student’s academic progress will be reviewed by the student’s academic advisor and the SLIM dean, and a decision will be made regarding whether the student should be academically dismissed from SLIM’s graduate program.

This SLIM Grade Policy applies to all students in SLIM’s master’s degree programs, certificate programs, the doctoral program, and academic concentrations. It also applies to all those who have passed into MLS or doctoral degree candidacy. (Updated 8/26/2014)

**SLIM Attendance Policy**

Students must attend all face-to-face classes. Class hours for weekend face-to-face meetings are 6pm-9pm on Friday and 9am-5pm on Saturday.

In cases of emergency, go to [http://www.emporia.edu/slim/studentresources/policies.html](http://www.emporia.edu/slim/studentresources/policies.html) for more information.

**SLIM Incomplete Grade Policy**

SLIM’s Incomplete Grade Policy upholds the Emporia State University Incomplete Grade Policy (for full policy, go to: [http://www.emporia.edu/regist/trnscpt/grades.html](http://www.emporia.edu/regist/trnscpt/grades.html)).

SLIM’s Incomplete Grade Policy further stipulates that an incomplete request will not be considered approved without an Incomplete Request Form having been submitted by the instructor and approved by the SLIM dean within two weeks after the issuance of the incomplete. If the incomplete grade is being requested for reasons of health, then documentation must be submitted to the SLIM dean’s office before the final grade change is made.

If a SLIM student’s request for a single incomplete grade is approved by the instructor and dean, then the student will be limited to enrolling in six credit hours in the immediately succeeding semester. If a SLIM student requests more than one incomplete grade to be issued at the conclusion of a semester, then an administrative hold will be placed on the student’s record to block future enrollment until all incomplete grades are finished and the final grade changes have been submitted by the instructor(s), signed by the SLIM dean, and accepted by the ESU Registrar’s Office.

**SLIM Netiquette Policy**

This course will involve the exchange of ideas, questions, and comments in an online and/or blended learning community. In all of your class communications, please use the same tact and
respect that you would if you were talking to classmates face to face. Remember that in online communication the visual and auditory aspects are missing, so be especially careful to ensure your emails and discussion postings accurately convey your meaning and are not open to misconstruction. Humor is especially difficult to convey in this environment, so take extra care with your writing. Please maintain your professionalism and courtesy at all times when interacting with others in the class.

Course Evaluations

Course evaluation is an important part of the process of teaching and learning. SLIM uses the IDEA evaluation instrument to gather feedback from students on the effectiveness of each and every course. The resulting data is reviewed by the instructors and the Dean, who work together to improve teaching and learning across the whole of SLIM. Evaluation surveys are made available to students toward the end of each semester, and periodic email reminders are sent to encourage participation. The surveys are administered by The IDEA Center through the Campus Labs platform, and student responses are anonymous (unless students share any identifying information in their comments). Nobody in SLIM has access to individual student surveys at any time, and aggregated data is only made available to instructors at least one week after final grades have been submitted. (Updated 4/16/2015)

Faculty-initiated Student Withdrawal Procedure

SLIM instructors follow the university's policy of faculty-initiated student withdrawal which states:

If a student's absences from class, disruptive behavior, lack of prerequisites, or academic dishonesty become detrimental to the student's progress or that of other students in the class, the faculty member may advise the student to withdraw from the class. Withdrawal may also be advised if the student is inappropriately enrolled in the class. If the faculty member chooses to withdraw the student, he/she shall attempt to notify the student in writing that a faculty initiated withdrawal is in progress. This notification will be copied to the department chair and Academic Affairs office to serve as the request for withdrawal. If efforts to contact the student have been unsuccessful, or unacknowledged, the faculty member shall then seek the aid of the Academic Affairs office in contacting the student. The Academic Affairs office shall provide the student with information about the existing appeals procedures.

Upon receiving a written request for withdrawal from the faculty member, the Academic Affairs office may initiate a student withdrawal from the class. None of the above implies or states that faculty members are required to initiate any student withdrawal. [Policy and Procedures Manual 4E.13]
Academic Dishonesty

At Emporia State University, academic dishonesty is a basis for disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to activities such as cheating and plagiarism (presenting as one's own the intellectual or creative accomplishments of another without giving credit to the source or sources.)

The faculty member in whose course or under whose tutelage an act of academic dishonesty occurs has the option of failing the student for the academic hours in question and may refer the case to other academic personnel for further action. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion from the university.

Diversity & Inclusivity Policy

Emporia State University supports an inclusive learning environment where diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, appreciated, and recognized as a source of strength. We expect that students and faculty at Emporia State will respect differences and demonstrate diligence in understanding how other people’s perspectives, behaviors, and worldviews may be different from their own.

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or your experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify the unit head (Department Chair or equivalent) as soon as possible, and/or contact the office of the Assistant Dean of Students for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

Accessibility Policy

Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Student Accessibility & Support Services (formerly Disability Services) each semester and as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. Students should then contact the professor with documentation from Student Accessibility and Support Services. All communication between students, Student Accessibility and Support Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential.

Contact information for Student Accessibility and Support Services:

Student Accessibility and Support Services
106 Plumb Hall
Emporia State University
1 Kellogg Circle / Box 4023
Emporia, KS 66801
Phone: 620/341-6637
TTY: 620/341-6646
Email: disabser@emporia.edu