

Course Profile: Issues in Librarianship: Advanced Online Search Techniques

Course Number: LIS 7160

Title: Issues in Librarianship: Advanced Online Search Techniques

Credits: 1

Prerequisite(s): LIS 6120

Rationale for Inclusion in Curriculum:

This course is intended for librarians, information specialists, library science students, and others who have completed a tutorial survey of those aspects of information science which involve the use of computers and online information services. Advanced search techniques-with an emphasis on user needs- will be described and discussed. The course focuses on actual online searches of DIALOG and other systems, making use of actual (not simulated or emulated) conditions of online systems. Specific topics will include post-processing of data, sorting and report generation, market intelligence database searches, company intelligence database searches, and ready reference searches.

Course Objectives:

1. Understand the advanced command structures of the Dialog system (e.g., sort, report, map, save, alert) and the capabilities and limitations inherent to online searching.
2. Understand cognate terminology of company intelligence, market intelligence, and ready reference databases as they are presented in an online environment.
3. Understand cognate terminology, concepts, and methods of post-processing online searches so as to make retrieved information presentable and valuable to the information seeker.

Competencies Expected:

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

1. Use the Dialog system to generate sorted reports of data in specified categories.
2. Negotiate conventional business reference questions to determine suitability for online searching, the most feasible databases to search, and effective strategies for searching.
3. Clearly distinguish between company intelligence and market intelligence and the appropriate search strategies for both types of queries.
4. Discuss intelligently the use of online resources for ready reference queries.

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Bases for Evaluation of Student Performance:

Assignments, consisting of lecture-related search problems using electronic media and (occasionally) other media.

Text: To Be Determined

Revised: 2/01