



## Course Outline of Record

## LIS 074 - Information Seeking Behavior

**Department:** A - LIBRARY  
**Originator:** Jane McKenna  
**State Control #:** CCC000591843  
**TOP Code:** 1699.00 - Other Library Science  
**C-ID:**  
**Meets GE/Transfer requirements (specify):**  
 Meets area E.

**Effective Date:** 08/01/2024  
**Approval Dates:**  
**State:** 01/11/2024  
**Board of Trustees:** 12/11/2023  
**Curriculum Committee:** 11/07/2023

## LIS 074 - Information Seeking Behavior

3.000 Units

**Course Description:** Introduction to Information-seeking theories, methods and user behaviors: Research design principles, methodology, value systems, and ethics employed in social scientific inquiry; Social and ethical issues related to research such as privacy, researcher bias, inequities in information access, AI, censorship, and intellectual property.

Type	Units/Hours	In-Class Hours	Out-of-Class Hours	Total Student Learning Hours
Lecture	3.000	52.500	105.000	157.500
Lab				
Total	3.000 Units			157.500

**Grading Policy:** Both Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

**Requisites:****Student Performance Objectives (Exit Skills):**

1. Recognize that information searching is a contextualized, complex experience that affects, and is affected by, the cultural and social dimensions of the researcher.
2. Discuss the evolution of information trends and their impact on society.
3. Analyze general research designs, experimental methods and standard research practices in the social and behavioral sciences.
4. Analyze the impact of information as it relates to systemic inequalities.
5. Synthesize a body of research findings utilizing style formats appropriate for the social and behavioral sciences.
6. Explain the basic principles of the scientific method.

**Course Content:**

## Lecture Content:

## A. Information trends and society - 35%

1. Formats and organization of information over time
2. The social impact of information trends viewed through a cultural, historical and political lens
3. Economic issues that impact information access such as media ownership / consolidation, research funding, and gate-keepers

4. Legal and ethical aspects of information use, such as copyright, freedom of speech, creative license, and censorship

B. Cultural bias and information-seeking behavior - 30%

1. Psychology of search process highlighting issues of cultural and gender bias
2. Strategies for developing and refining a research topic
3. Evaluation of research studies from a variety of cultural contexts

C. Research methods in the social and behavioral sciences - 35%

1. Research design models in the social and behavioral sciences
2. The research process
3. Scientific method
4. Experimental methods
5. Qualitative and quantitative analysis
6. Ethics in research design
7. Reporting of research data

Lab Content:

N/A

**Texts, Readings, and Materials:**

\*Date is required: Transfer institutions require current publication date(s) within 5 years of outline addition/update.

- Markey, Karen. *Online Searching: A Guide to Finding Quality Information Efficiently and Effectively*. 2nd edition Rowman & Littlefield Publishers , 2020.
- Case, Donald O.. *Looking for Information: A Survey of Research on Information Seeking, Needs, and Behavior*. 4th edition Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2021.
  - *Rationale for Textbook Older than 5 Years*: No new edition has been published just yet but is coming.
- Bhattacharjee, A.. *Social Science Research: Principles, Methods and Practices*. 2021 edition Global Text Project, 2021.

**Methods of Instruction:**

- Distance Education
- Activity
- Lecture
- Discussion
- Projects
- Multimedia Content
- Threaded Discussions
- Critique
- Observation and Demonstration
- Individualized Instruction
- **Other Methods:** 1. Observations and demonstration of various types of media and articles. 2. Instructor led lectures to introduce the strategies and principles behind scientific inquiry and research methods. 3. Group and individual activities to illustrate research design and techniques. 4. Student led discussions on topics around ethical issues related to research. 5. Student critiques of other students' research.

**Assignments:**

1. Group and individual activities to illustrate research design principles and research techniques. 2. Student discussions on topics around ethical issues related to research. 3. Student critiques of other students' research findings. 4. Writing projects that include analyzing reports and identifying cultural and gender bias within the research process. 5. Quizzes on readings 6. Essays that demonstrate knowledge of social and behavioral sciences research design, methods and standards of practice. 7. Research reports include literature review, reasoned conclusions, critical thinking, synthesizing key pieces of information and comparing this information to their own research questions.

**Student Assessment (Grades are based on):**

- ESSAY (Includes "blue book" exams and any written assignment of sufficient length and complexity to require students to select and organize ideas, to explain and support the ideas, and to demonstrate critical thinking skills.)
- SKILL DEMONSTRATION
- MULTIPLE CHOICE
- NON-COMPUTATIONAL PROBLEM SOLVING (Critical thinking should be demonstrated by solving unfamiliar problems via various strategies.)
- OTHER (Describe)
- **Other:** 1. Group and individual activities to illustrate research design principles and research techniques. 2. Student discussions on topics around ethical issues related to research. 3. Student critiques of other students' research findings. 4. Writing projects that include analyzing reports and identifying cultural and gender bias within the research process. 5. Quizzes on readings 6. Essays that demonstrate knowledge of social and behavioral sciences research design, methods and standards of practice. 7. Research reports include literature review, reasoned conclusions, critical thinking, synthesizing key pieces of information and comparing this information to their own research questions.

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<b>CB 004:</b>	D - Credit - Degree Applicable	<b>CB 005:</b>	A - Transferable to both UC and CSU.
<b>CB 008:</b>	N - Not Basic Skills	<b>CB 009:</b>	E - Non-Occupational
<b>CB 010:</b>	N - Is not part of a cooperative work experience education program.	<b>CB 011:</b>	Y - Credit Course
<b>CB 013:</b>	N - Course is not a special class.	<b>CB 021:</b>	Y - Not applicable
<b>CB 022:</b>	Y - Not Applicable, Credit course	<b>CB 023:</b>	Y - Not Applicable (funding not used to develop course)
<b>CB 024:</b>	1 - Program Applicable	<b>CB 025:</b>	Y - Not Applicable
<b>CB 026:</b>	N - Course is not a support course	<b>CB 027:</b>	