IRLS 533-010 Medical Online Searching

Tue, 05/31/2011 - 13:31 - plmitch

COURSE NAME, NUMBER AND PREREQUISITES:

[Prerequisite: IRLS 504 or consent of the instructor.]

Instructor: Sandy Kramer

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Overview of medical databases, searching techniques, controlled vocabulary and information resources. The course will also discuss the evolving health sciences environment and career paths as they apply to medical database searching. Evidence-Based Medicine, a critical component of today’s medical education and practice, will be included as well as other emerging techniques in medical database searching. Students will have hands-on opportunities to develop in depth knowledge of PubMed and other highly regarded online databases used by health practitioners and medical librarians. Using effective literature searching techniques, we will explore the medical literature used by health practitioners in the clinical decision making process. We will also examine the electronic resources present in today's health sciences library.

3 credits

What will we be covering in this course?

- Health sciences environment and information retrieval
- Database content related to patient care and research services in health sciences settings
- Information resources in nursing, medical, pharmaceutical and allied health fields
- Evidence-based medicine and the health sciences librarian
- Hands-on database searching techniques to maximize information retrieval
- Controlled vocabularies, database organization and today’s online environment
- Career paths for health sciences librarians in corporations, hospitals, academic libraries and research institutions.

We will explore the skills, resources and trends of today's medical online searching environment. Readings will include the electronic database resource requirements of health care professionals, patients, consumers and biomedical researchers. Lectures and readings will provide knowledge of electronic resources, technology and systems. The course will include extensive coverage of PubMed database and its medical subject headings. We will also learn about specialized databases used to search for business, news, psychology, public health, nursing and nutrition.

Course Format: This course will be taught virtually using D2L on the Web. Lectures will be posted twice a week with discussion forums set up for each lecture. You will be expected to actively participate in online discussions, posting a comment, question or reply at least once for every lecture. There is no required textbook for this course. Assigned readings will be available electronically at no cost to the students.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the course, students should understand and be able to demonstrate working knowledge of: medical online databases and associated searching techniques. Students should understand the principles and practices related to providing accurate, timely, relevant, cost effective information to health professionals, patients and healthcare consumers. Students will also have knowledge of collaboration, networking and career paths in health sciences librarianship.
REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

There is no required text to buy. All readings will be available electronically at no cost to students. Some assigned readings will be accessed online through the National Library of Medicine’s PubMed database which provides access to biomedical literature. All reading assignments will be posted on D2L. For some readings, you will be given a direct link to the article. For other assigned readings, you will be provided with information on how to access the journal articles from the Arizona Health Sciences Library Web page.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

There are four components that go into the final course grade:

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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercises</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Project</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
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Participation: Online discussion of course lectures and readings will take place in D2L discussion forums. You will be required to post a thoughtful comment at least once for every lecture. Further information on discussion forums and use of email will be located on D2L.

Exercises: Four exercises will be assigned during the course:

1. PubMed literature searches: author, single citation matcher, review article
2. Evidence-based medicine fundamentals and related literature searches
3. Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) selection using National Library of Medicine's MeSH database
4. Searching exercises from several other health related databases: CINAHL, PsycINFO and ABI/INFORM

Midterm Project: You will select a topic such as migraines, breast cancer, osteoporosis, arthritis, anorexia or other medical conditions, subject to the approval of the instructor. You will be provided with medical online searching questions to be completed within PubMed database. Your search results and your search techniques will be emailed to your instructor. All of the searching techniques required in the midterm project will be covered in depth in class before assignment of the midterm project.

Final Project: Using the same health sciences topic from your midterm project, you will conduct online searches in consumer health, business, news, psychology and nursing databases. Results of the literature searches as well as the searching techniques will be emailed to the instructor. All databases and searching techniques will be covered in depth in class before assignment of the final project.

COURSE, SCHOOL, AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Academic Code of Integrity

Students are expected to abide by The University of Arizona Code of Academic Integrity. 'The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own.' If you have any questions regarding what is acceptable practice under this Code, please ask an Instructor.

Accommodating Disabilities

The University has a Disability Resource Center. If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Disability Resource Center and request that the DRC send me, the Instructor, official notification of your accommodation needs as soon as possible. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.
Assignment Policies

- How to submit your assignments: I will be providing specific directions for submitting each assignment. Literature searches will be sent directly to the instructor from the database.
- Assignment due dates: Assignment due dates will be posted on the class D2L page. I expect that each assignment will be turned in to the instructor by the date and time specified.
- Late Policy: Unless arrangements are made in advance individually with the instructor, in cases of illness or emergency, all assignments are due as directed.

Incompletes

The current Catalog reads

The grade of I may be awarded only at the end of a term, when all but a minor portion of the course work has been satisfactorily completed. The grade of I is not to be awarded in place of a failing grade or when the student is expected to repeat the course; in such a case, a grade other than I must be assigned. Students should make arrangements with the instructor to receive an incomplete grade before the end of the term. A date of thirty or sixty days may be selected for the work to be completed.

If the incomplete is not removed by the instructor within one year the I grade will revert to a failing grade.

GRADING:
Grade Breakdown

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Assignment of Course Grades:
Course grades will be assigned as follows:
A=90+ (Superior Work)
B=80-89 (Very Good)
C=70-79 (Marginally Satisfactory)
F=0-69 (Failed to meet requirements)

INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT ADDRESSES:

skramer@ahsl.arizona.edu

I am physically located in the Arizona Health Sciences Library, at the Tucson campus of the University of Arizona. I am available at all times to answer questions through D2L email. I am also available, by appointment, either in my office or by telephone. My office phone number is 520.626.6438, but the best way to reach me is through class D2L email. I will make every effort to respond to your email messages and telephone calls promptly.
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Courses

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  - Fall 11
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    - IRLS 475/575-010 User Interface and Web Site Design (Virtual, Smith)
    - IRLS 488-010 Issues in Information Resources: International Librarianship
    - IRLS 521-010 Children's and Young Adult Literature in a Multicultural Society
    - IRLS 524-010 INFORMATION RESOURCES & SERVICES
    - IRLS 533-010 Medical Online Searching
    - IRLS 541-001 Preservation
    - IRLS 556-010 Health Information in Ethnic-Cultural Communities
    - IRLS 564-031 The Organization and Administration of a Corporate Library
    - IRLS 570-010 Database Development and Management (Summer 2011)
    - IRLS 571-010 Introduction to Information Technology (Virtual-Smith)
    - IRLS 588-010 Issues in Information Resources: International Librarianship
    - IRLS 588-011 Archival Care and Management of Photographs
    - IRLS 588-012 Information Resources: Instructional Programs in Academic Libraries
    - IRLS 588-014 Introduction To Special Collections
    - IRLS 608 Planning and Evaluation of Libraries and Information Centers
    - IRLS 651-010 Information Policy & Cultural Perspectives
    - IRLS 672-010 Introduction to Applied Technology (Summer 2011)
    - IRLS 676-910 DigIn Capstone
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- Course Delivery Options
Guided exploration

Click a term to initiate a search.

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