IRLS551-001 Equity of Access (Virtual -Montiel Overall)

Updated Fri, 04/23/2010 - 00:06

COURSE NAME, NUMBER AND PREREQUISITES:

Equity of Access

IRLS 551Section-001

Patricia Montiel Overall

There are no course prerequisites.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines social, political, and economic issues involved in providing equal access to information to diverse populations. Students will work within cohorts to discuss topics introduced in the readings. Weekly online discussions will be required.

Through 30 hours of service learning, students will have "real world" experiences with issues in community settings. Students will examine the role of libraries in providing access to information to diverse populations and will document findings in fieldnotes. A log of time spent will also be maintained.

Information about service learning is available at the National Service Learning Clearinghouse - http://www.servicelearning.org/ Students should become familiar with service learning by browsing this website. Further discussion of service learning requirements will be provided on the first day of class.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to provide students with opportunities to engage in "real life" experiences that connect theory and practice.

By the end of this course students will have a good understanding of the following:

* critical equity of access issues

* political, social, philosophical, and economic implications of equity of access issues
*the American Library Association (ALA) position on providing equal access of information resources to citizens

*application of theory to real world experiences

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:**

Assigned readings will be posted to D2L and selected chapters will be required from the following books:


Readings will be available in pdf format on D2L (Content).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

The course requirements are:

- Completion of assigned readings
- Online discussions
- Mid and final self-reflection
- Service Learning and Observations

Completion of assigned readings:
Students will be assigned readings for each week.

Discussions:
Students will be assigned to a cohort or group of two. Each group will carry on a discussion of readings and service learning assignments.

Self-Reflections
A mid and final self-reflection will be required. Reflections must provide comprehensive, analytical insights into the learning which has occurred. Critical analysis of readings, discussions, and service learning must be evident in the reflections.

Service Learning:
Students will be expected to complete 30 hours of service learning or observations at a school or public library during the semester. A complete discussion about this requirement will take place during the first week of the semester. (In the past, students have found this to be one of the most valuable experiences of the class.)

Additional Information:

Students will be enrolled in D2L, the course management tool. Notices and assignments will be posted on the course homepage on D2L.

Students will be assigned to a cohort for online discussions. The cohort will conduct online discussions about study questions provided by the instructor. These discussions will take place online through D2L. Comments posted should be thoughtful, reflective, evaluative, critical.

An OPEN discussion will also be available for students to share information with members outside their cohort. Students are encouraged (but not required) to participate in these open discussions of the week's topic.

All assignments and due dates will be posted to the course homepage on D2L for students' convenience. D2L will always
have the most current information.

**Course Schedule**

A detailed schedule with assigned readings and information about course requirements will be available on Jan. 13, 2010 on D2L.

See attachment.

**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**

*Put your own material for the staff in red>*

- **How to submit your assignments:** Assignments should be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L. Assignments should include student's name, date, and cohort. Assignments will be returned to students through D2L dropbox.

- **Assignment due dates:** Writing style used in this course is APA (5th edition). There are on-line writing resources that might be helpful in preparing assignments but they should conform to APA 5th edition. If English is not your first language, Dr. Overall will provide necessary assistance.

- **Late Policy:** To be announced.

**Incompletes**

The 1997-8 University of Arizona General Academic Manual, p.23 reads

> The grade of I may be awarded only at the end of a semester, when all but a minor portion of the course work has been satisfactorily completed. The grade of I is not to be awarded when the student is expected to repeat the course; in such a case the grade of E must be assigned. Students should make arrangements with the instructor to receive an incomplete grade before the end of the semester ...

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

**GRADING:**

100 points

Mid reflection=10 pts.
Final self-reflection=10 pts.
Discussions=20 pts.
Service Learning=20 pts.
Fieldnotes=20 pts.
Reports=20 pts.

A=100-90
B=70-89
C=Below 70

Grades will be provided on D2L. A rubric for evaluating papers will be provided on D2L.

INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT ADDRESSES:
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Guided exploration

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Audience
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Course
- IRLS417 (2)
- IRLS418 (1)
- IRLS432 (1)
- IRLS470 (2)