IRLS651: Information Policy & Cultural Perspectives

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COURSE NAME, NUMBER AND PREREQUISITES:

SIRLS 651-010: Information Policy & Cultural Perspectives
Summer 2010

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

Instructor: Elizabeth Martinez – emfuture@hotmail.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine library information policy issues from cultural perspectives, an increasing interest as the nation becomes more diverse with immigrants from around the world, and indigenous groups gain influence. For example, the library profession supports the principle of intellectual freedom and open access to information, a policy that is not common in many cultures around the world. The library principles of access to information and intellectual property rights are often in conflict with many indigenous people. Privacy may no longer private with social networking electronic applications, and Immigration issues cannot be separated from the perspectives of the growing diverse population.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Course Objectives

Students will:
1. Acquire a basic understanding of current national information policies, and cultural perspectives – particularly Hispanic and Native American.
2. Become knowledgeable about the players, stakeholders, voices, and resources.
3. Discuss the importance of current national information policies to local libraries and librarians.

Topics to be Discussed

• Leadership & Information Policy: Who are the players? The issues?

• The Public Interest: Increasingly diverse virtual communities. Who are the new publics? How do we manage competing public interests? Privacy now. Google’s impact. How are cultural perspectives voiced?

• The Internet & WIRED Voices: Local and national politics. Trends & Cultural Voices. Where are the cultural perspectives?
• The Economy of Information & Ethical Issues: What is the price of information? How does “society” determine the value of information? Are cultural perspectives included in “society?” What is equitable access? What are the consequences of cultural perspectives on information policies?

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Recommended Resources

ALAWON, Washington Office, American Library Association (ALA)

COYLES INFORMATION HIGHWAY HANDBOOK; A Practical File on the New Information Order, American Library Association, 2001. This is good background on librarians and current national information policy. See also:

American Indian Cultural & Research Journal (UCLA)

Ethnic Caucuses of the ALA

First Monday, www.firstmonday.org

Office of Information Technology Policy (OITP), ALA.

WIRED magazine; see December 2005 through spring 2006.

Race: The power of an illusion. (PBS video series to be shown)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Assignments: All assignments will include opportunities to cover cultural perspectives on the topics. Each of the assignments is described below. Assignment due dates will be posted online.

1. Readings & Critical Notes (10 points each or 20 total): DUE June 28.

Students will review two articles from a suggested list or other readings, and write a critical review that includes cultural perspectives on the issue. The review should be two pages, double-spaced.


Students will select and research a policy group from those suggested below or others identified, and present their findings: players, stakeholders, priority focus, funding, influence, and importance to information professionals.

• American Indian Research & Policy Institute
• Congress of American Indians
• Center for Internet & Democracy
• Center for Digital Democracy
• Center for Democracy & Technology
• Center for Media & Democracy
• Pew Charitable Trusts
3. Information Issue (40 points): DUE August 9.

Select and research a current information policy issue from a cultural perspective. An example is to write on “access to information” from an indigenous point of view, or on Google’s global influence on cultural issues. Interview two librarians for their perspectives on the issue. This is a 12 page, double-spaced paper in APA style.

Attendance & Participation (15 points)

Attendance and participation are critical. Students will participate in discussions on various information policy issues such as privacy now, immigration and cultures, Google-ization of information and libraries, and social networking tools and implications for libraries including observations and insights that contribute to the understanding of the subject.

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:** How do you want students to submit assignments? Do you want them to include any particular identifying information on their assignments? Will assignments be returned to them, or will they just see a posted grade? Anything else that they'd need to know?
- **Assignment due dates:** Since the Course Schedule section (above) will spell out specific due dates, this section is used to describe any late penalties and any particulars about exactly when items are due (e.g. "Surface-mailed assignments must be postmarked no later than the stated due date.")
- **Writing style:** Are students supposed to use any particular writing style, such as APA or Chicago Manual? Are there any on-line writing resources that might be helpful to your students as they prepare their assignments? What if English is not their native tongue...is help available to them?
Late Policy

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 ...

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

GRADING:

Grades

A = 90+ points. Assignment research and presentation demonstrate superior knowledge and understanding of the issues; demonstrated knowledge of resources through active participation in discussions - expressed opinions, questions and comments.

B = 80-89 points. Assignment research and presentation demonstrate good knowledge and understanding of the issues; some knowledge of resources indicated through participation in discussions.

C = 70-79 points. Assignment research and presentation demonstrate superficial coverage of issues; limited knowledge of resources with limited participation in discussions.

INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT ADDRESSES:

Elizabeth Martinez – emfuture@hotmail.com
Summer 10
- IRLS470 Database Development and Management
- Clone of IRLS672 Introduction to Applied Technology (Summer 2010)
- IRLS488/588 The Digital Revolution
- IRLS520 Ethics for Library and Information Professionals (Summer 2010)
- IRLS521 Childrens' and Young Adult Literature in A Multicultural Society
- IRLS524-010 INFORMATION RESOURCES & SERVICES
- IRLS541-001 Preservation
- IRLS556 Health Information in Ethnic-Cultural Communities
- IRLS556 Health Information in Ethnic-Cultural Communities
- IRLS564 THE ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF A CORPORATE LIBRARY
- IRLS570 Database Development and Management
- IRLS571-010 Introduction to Information Technology (Smith-Summer 2010-Draft)
- IRLS582 - 002 : Young Adults and Public Libraries
- IRLS588 Information Resources: Instructional Programs in Academic Libraries
- IRLS588-011: Cultural Influences on Information Systems
- IRLS640 - Advanced Archives
- IRLS651: Information Policy & Cultural Perspectives
- IRLS660 Business Information Sources
- IRLS672 Introduction to Applied Technology (Summer 2010)

Winter 10-11
- Spring 10
- Winter 09 10
- Fall 09
- Summer 09
- Spring 09
- Winter 08 09
- Fall 08
- Archive of Old Syllabi

Schedules
- Core Courses
- Course Delivery Options
- Course Descriptions
- Distributed Electives
- Individual Studies: Internships, Independent Studies & Practica
- Registration
- Required first course: IRLS504
- Suggested Courses by Specialization
- Suggested Out of Department Courses
- Workload

Guided exploration
Click a term to initiate a search.

Audience
- for Students (92)
- for Faculty (28)
- for Alums (24)
Related categories

Course: IRLS651
People: Adjunct Faculty » Martinez
Semester: Summer 10

Guided keyword

Search More options