

LIBR 57 – INTERNET RESEARCH STRATEGIES, SPRING 2012



Instructor: Jerry Dear
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Class Meets: Wednesdays, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Room: Rosenberg Library, R518

Course Description

The Internet as a research tool. Use Internet access tools to identify appropriate sources for a given topic. Formulate search strategies and retrieve information.

Course Requirements

Attendance: Class meets on Wednesdays – 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. You will earn **10 points** for up to **15 class sessions** starting on **2/8 for a potential 150 points total.** Attending class means staying for the entire 2 hours. Missing more than 2 absences can result in a lower grade.

Assignments: Assignments must be **submitted at the start of each class session.** A **10% penalty** will be applied to late assignments and for **each successive class meeting in which the assignment is late.** Assignments will NOT be accepted 2 weeks after the due date.

Research Project: Sample research projects will be on reserve at the Rosenberg Library.

Quizzes/Exams: Both midterm and final exams are required. Quizzes and exams will be based primarily on lectures, handouts, assigned readings, and Web exercises. **No makeup quizzes.**

Recommended Textbook (OPTIONAL)

Hock, Randolph. *The Extreme Searcher's Internet Handbook*. 3rd ed. Medford, NJ: CyberAge Books, 2010.

ISBN-13: 978-0-910965-84-2

- Two copies of this book are on reserve at the Rosenberg Library under the course **LIBR 57.**
- If you wish, you can order the book from www.extremesearcher.com or your favorite online bookstore.

Assigned Readings

To be announced – Stay tuned. Textbook readings on the schedule are optional and supplementary.

Internet Computers

For information on computer labs and resources at CCSF: <http://bit.ly/dgLwiV>

Important: Set up an account as soon as possible so you have computer/Internet access for working on assignments, taking exams, etc.

Grading Points

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Attendance | 150 |
| Assignments..... | 250 |
| Quizzes/Midterm Exam | 60 |
| Research Project..... | 70 |
| Quizzes/Final Exam | 60 |

Attendance: Show up in class. LIBR 57 is not offered for independent study. The instructor reserves the right to lower your grade for absences no matter how well you perform on assignments, quizzes, and exams.

All scores are recorded as numbers and calculated numerically. The following scale is used to submit letter grades to the Registrar's Office.

Grading Scale

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|-----------------|
| A = 92 – 100 |
| B = 83 – 91 |
| C = 74 – 82 |
| D = 65 – 73 |
| F = 64 or below |

Tentative Schedule

- 1/18 Introductions/Class Logistics/History of the Internet
- 1/25 History of the Internet/Preliminary Search Strategies/OPACs
- 2/1 Subject Directories; Read Hock: pp. 8-9, 11-14
- 2/8 Subject Directories/Gateway Sites; Read Hock: pp. 29-41
- 2/15 Search Engines; Read Hock: pp. 10, 61-71; **Quiz #1; Due: Assignment #1**
- 2/22 Search Engines; Read/Skim Hock: pp. 75-131
- 2/29 Metasearch Engines; Read Hock: pp. 72-73; **Quiz #2; Due: Assignment #2**
- 3/7 Deep Web; Midterm Review; Read Hock: pp. 15-18
- 3/14 **Midterm Exam**
- 3/21 Deep Web; Web Evaluation; Read/Skim Hock: pp. 20-23, 41-56
- 3/28 Spring Break – No Class
- 4/4 Deep Web/Library Subscription Databases; Read/Skim Hock: Ch. 6;
Due: Assignment #3
- 4/11 Library Subscription Databases
- 4/18 Library Subscription Databases/Online News Resources; Read/Skim: pp. 225-245;
Due: Assignment #4; Quiz #3
- 4/25 Newsgroups/Electronic Discussion Forums/Blogs; Read/Skim Hock: Ch. 5;
Due: Research Project

- 5/2 Current Awareness Resources; Read Hock: pp. 245-248; **Due: Assignment #5**
- 5/9 Web 2.0 Search Innovations; Read Hock: p. 7; **Quiz #4**
- 5/16 Wrap-Up/Final Exam Review
- 5/23 **Final Exam: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Important Dates

- 2/3 Last day to add classes or change sections in person and online
- 2/9 Last day to drop classes without a “W” notation. **Note:** Students are responsible for dropping classes on the Web. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade on permanent record.
- 2/21 Last day to request a pass/no pass (P/NP) grading option
- 3/14 Midterm Exam**
- 4/19 Last day for withdrawal (A “W” notation will appear on student transcript.)
- 4/25 Research Project Due**
- 5/23 Final Exam: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Special Accommodations

If you:

- need classroom or testing accommodations because of a disability
- have emergency medical information to share with me
- need special arrangements in case the building needs to be evacuated

Please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

Students seeking disability related accommodations are also encouraged to register with Disabled Students Programs and Services located in Room 323 of the Rosenberg Library (415) 452-5481.

To accommodate all students, please be sensitive to those who are allergy prone to heavily scented personal products and refrain from wearing these types of products. R518 is a classroom in which odors can circulate easily, so let’s maintain a scent-free classroom.

Guidelines/Rules of Conduct

Be courteous and respectful to your classmates and allow each other equal “air time.” In the interest of time, I may have to curtail some discussions to stay on track with the course curriculum. Feel free to e-mail me or see me before/after class if you have outstanding questions/concerns.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated on all assignments, quizzes, and exams. To plagiarize is to steal and use the ideas and writings from another source and pass them off as your own. CCSF requires that the submission of all course assignments represent the original work produced by that student as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. You may collaborate with each other on

homework assignments if you wish, but blatantly **copying answers word-for-word** will result in point deductions. **Remember:** You are only cheating yourself by depriving yourself of your learning.

Strategies for Success

- Show up to class on time regularly. Missing a class session is equivalent to missing 2 weeks' worth of information and can lower your grade. You are responsible for obtaining notes from a classmate if you miss class. I will also e-mail weekly recaps.
- Check my Web site for handouts if you miss class: <http://libr57.weebly.com>
- Submit assignments on time. Late penalties will be applied accordingly, and assignments will not be accepted after 2 weeks after the due date.
- Work on your research project in small chunks instead of cramming at the last minute.
- Keep copies of all your assignments and especially your research project.