

# Library Resources 101: Information Literacy Skills for College-Level Research

Section 1: Wednesdays 10:00 – 10:50 a.m.

Syllabus – Spring 2018

The purpose of this course is to help students become proficient and discerning in using print, electronic, and other library resources to obtain relevant information for college level research.

**Please bring your personal laptop or mobile device to class if you prefer to use it instead of the library's computers.**

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## Learning Objectives:

### ➤ Accessing information

- *Selecting information sources:* students will be able to distinguish among various kinds of information retrieval systems and select those most appropriate for the research need.
  - Information discovery systems
  - Catalogs, article indexes and databases
  - Web search engines
- *Search techniques:* students will be able to employ search strategies appropriate to the information retrieval systems selected.
  - Understands and uses advanced search
  - Understands and uses Boolean operators, understands and uses truncation
  - Understands search limits and uses them appropriately
  - Performs field searching
  - Understands how to refine searches
  - Identifies key terms and concepts
- *Retrieving information sources:* students will be able to retrieve information sources of various kinds.
  - Determines availability of an information source at UWSP
  - Employs alternatives when an information source is not available at UWSP
  - Manages information effectively

### ➤ Evaluating information

- Students will be able to determine the reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, timeliness, and point of view or bias of information sources.
- Students will be able to explain the meaning of “peer-reviewed” and determine whether a journal is peer-reviewed.

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**Ground Rules:** This course is pass-fail only. To pass, students must:

- **Attend all classes.** As a pass-fail class, attendance is mandatory because the majority of learning takes place in the classroom. In the event of a true **emergency** that would result in a class being missed, it is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor ahead of class. The student must also satisfactorily complete the regular assignment and a turn it in to the instructor by the beginning of the next regular class period. If a class is missed, **it is the student’s responsibility to get the assignment from the instructor or the course guide.** Assignments are posted online the day of class in the course guide at <http://libraryguides.uwsp.edu/lr101/huffman>.
- **Complete & submit all assignments on time.** Assignments will be handed out at the end of class and are due at the beginning of the next class period. If an assignment is turned in late, ten (10) percentage points will automatically be deducted from the assignment grade for each day that it is late. If a student receives a score of less than 70% on an assignment, it will be returned to the student who will have one opportunity to redo it and resubmit to it for regrading, however, this option does not apply to assignments turned in late.
- **Complete the final exam. The final exam is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2018, 10:15 am – 12:15 pm in ALB 107.**
- **Receive a satisfactory final course score.** A final course score of at least **70%** (out of 100%) is considered satisfactory to pass the class. The final course grade is represented as a percentage and is calculated as follows: a student’s accumulated total points from all assignments and the final exam divided by the total number of points available, minus seven (7) percentage points automatically deducted for each day a student has been absent from class.

**Materials:** A textbook is not required, however, **optional** readings to help further your understanding of the course content are identified on the course reading list from the following texts, which will be available on course reserve (1<sup>st</sup> floor of the library):

*Research Strategies: Finding Your Way Through the Information Fog*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. by William Badke, 2017;

*The Craft of Research*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. by Wayne C. Booth, et. al., 2016

*The Oxford Guide to Library Research*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. by Thomas Mann, 2015

**Plagiarism:** Students are responsible for reading and understanding the University’s policies on Academic Misconduct. Please also visit the Library’s guide on Plagiarism available through the Subject Guides.

## Course Calendar

| Date and Location*                              | Activity/Topic   | Assignment                          | Optional Reading (On Reserve)  |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| Jan 24 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Introduction to LRES 101:</b> The Library Shuffle & The Library as a Virtual Space                | Homepage Exploration                | <b>Badke:</b> Sec 1; Pages 1-20<br><b>Booth et. al.:</b> Secs. 5.2-5.3; Pages 68-76  |
| Jan 31 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Library Tour:</b> The Library as a Physical Space   | #ExpeditionLibrary                  |  |
| Feb 7 (ALB 107)                                 | <b>Discovery Systems, Search Strategies, and More:</b> Search@UW                                     | Search@UW                           | <b>Badke:</b> Secs 3.6-3.7, 4.2, & 6-6.2; Pages 55-63, 71-81, & 116-119<br><b>Mann:</b> Ch. 10; Pages 187-192  |
| Feb 14 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Article Databases:</b> General and Subject Databases  | Article Databases                   | <b>Badke:</b> Secs. 4.0-4.2.1, 4.3-4.4, 5.4-5.8, 6.3.2-6.4.11; Pages 69-74, 81-87, 99-112, 134-143   |
| Feb 21 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Periodicals:</b> Print & Online   | Periodicals                         | <b>Badke:</b> Secs. 1.5.2, 6.3.1, 9.1.2 (just the Article section); Pages 14-17, 128-133, 220-221  |
| Feb 28 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Reference Sources:</b> Print & Electronic   | Reference Sources                   | <b>Badke:</b> 1.6, 3.5.3, 7.8.1; Pages 19-22, 54-55, 182-183<br><b>Booth et. al.:</b> Secs. 5.1-5.1.4; Pages 65-68   |
| Mar 7 (ALB 107)                                 | <b>Web Information Sources:</b> Web Searching, Google Scholar, Limitations, Complexities, Evaluation | Web Exercise                        | <b>Badke:</b> Secs. 1.7, 3.5.2, 7.2-7.7; 9.1.2-9.2; Pages 22, 52-54, 157-182, 217-224  |
| Mar 14 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Other Information Sources:</b> Library Catalogs, WorldCat, Interlibrary Loan                      | Catalog Searching                   | <b>Badke:</b> Secs. 5.6.1, 6.2, 6.4.2; Pages 107-109, 118-126, 144<br><b>Mann:</b> Chs.2, 11; Pages 17-62, 211-220   |
| Mar 21 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Mid Semester Course Review</b>  | In-class Activity: <i>Jeopardy!</i> |  |
| <b>Mar 28</b>                                   | <b>SPRING BREAK</b>  |                                     |  |
| Apr 4 (ALB 107)                                 | <b>Understanding Citations:</b> The Ethical Use of Information and Creation of Citations             | Citing Resources                    | <b>Badke:</b> Secs. 8.5-8.5.4, 9.5.1-9.5.3, 10.2, A.5.4, and A.6-A.6.2; Pages 195-197, 236-240, 245-248, 308-309, and 311-317<br><b>Booth et. al.:</b> Secs. 14.1-14.6, Part V; Pages 200-210, 271-274 |
| Apr 11 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Open Access Sources and Predatory Journals</b>  | Predatory Journals                  | <b>Badke:</b> Sec. 1.5.2; Pages 14-17  |
| Apr 18 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Government Documents:</b> US & WI   | Government Information              | <b>Badke:</b> Sections 1.5.3, 8.2-8.3; Pages 17, 190 – 194<br><b>Mann:</b> Ch. 13; 259-277   |
| Apr 25 (ALB 107)                                | <b>Data &amp; Information:</b> Beyond Text   | Data Exercise                       | <b>Mann:</b> Ch. 14; Pages: 305-306, 311-313   |
| May 2 ( <b>ALB 506</b> )                        | <b>University Archives &amp; Area Research Center:</b> Primary Sources                               | In-class Discussion                 | <b>Mann:</b> Ch. 13; Pages 277-284   |
| May 9 (ALB 107)                                 | <b>Final Course Review</b>   | In-class Activity: <i>Triventy</i>  |  |
| <b>May 17 (ALB 107)<br/>10:15 am – 12:15 pm</b> | <b>Final Exam</b>  | Final Exam                          |  |

\* This class moves to different locations in the Library during the semester. Please consult your syllabus for room location. \*