

Hartnell College

**LIB 6: Information Competency in the Social Sciences**

Fall 2011, Section 3007 - (Nov. 7 – Dec. 16, 2011)



**Instructor:** Dr. Jennifer Lagier Fellguth

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**Textbook:** *Information Literacy & Technology* by Carla J. List-Handley. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, 2008, ISBN 978-0-7575-4676-1 (copies for sale in the bookstore; copies on reserve in the library)

**Course Description:**

An introduction to the information competency skills required to locate, evaluate and cite materials in the social sciences. Students will access all course lectures and assignments through eCollege at the address shown below.

Information Competency is a one-unit class that meets for six weeks in an online learning environment. Students are expected to spend at least three hours a week completing assignments, readings, etc.

**Class web site:** eCollege, <http://www.hartnell.org>

**Course Objectives:**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. define and articulate the scope and level of information needed for specific information needs;
2. identify and locate available materials and services;
3. select appropriate information sources for specific information needs;
4. construct effective and efficient searches using the available information tools to retrieve relevant information and interpret the retrieved information;
5. critically evaluate sources for quality, and relevancy of information;
6. organize information for effective use;
7. cite information using the American Psychological Association (APA) bibliographic style;
8. explain and discuss ethical and legal issues surrounding information and information technology.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. utilize available resources in a variety of formats to retrieve and evaluate information.
2. cite and arrange information correctly in a standard bibliographic format.

### **Assignments:**

Students are responsible for completing and submitting assignments. If you run into problems or are unable to complete assignments on time, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor to negotiate an appropriate time table. If you have not submitted all required assignments, you may receive a failing grade. It is **your** responsibility to submit assignments on time or file a course drop slip. Assignments later than 2 days overdue may not be accepted and or points may be deducted.

### **Grading Criteria:**

The course uses a point system for determining grades. Points are earned weekly based on the following:

1. Class participation: 30 points, 20 points for accessing the course at least twice per week and 10 points for contributing weekly to online class discussions (5 postings @ 2 points each week);
2. Five assignments, each worth 20 points;
3. Quiz: 15 points
4. Final annotated bibliography: 50 points
5. Final Reflections: 5 points

**Total possible points = 200 points**

### **Grading Scale:**

A=180-200 points

B=160-179 points

C=140-159 points

D=120-139 points

F=119 points and below

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students are expected to complete and submit their own work. ***Copying or submitting work created by another person or copying from the Internet*** is considered cheating and will be treated as a serious offense. ***You will receive 0 points for any assignment that is plagiarized.***

### **Disabilities and Learning Issues:**

Students with disabilities and/or issues which may impact their ability to succeed in this class and which may require special attention or services should make themselves known to their instructor before or during the first class session. Hartnell students may wish to contact the DSP&S Program, 755-6760 (voice and TDD).

### **Assignments and Due Dates:**

Each week you need to log onto eCollege to access the week's assignment. After completing your work, upload your file into appropriate eCollege online dropbox . Also post your comments to the weekly online discussion forum.

### **Week 1:**

How Information is Organized, Internet Searching

- Read ***Chapters 1 & 2 in the text***
- ***Assignment 1 & discussion posts due Saturday, November 12***

## **Week 2:**

Search Tools, the Online Catalog and Databases

- Read **Chapters 3 & 4 in the text**
- Assignment 2 & discussion post due **Saturday, November 19**

## **Week 3:**

Selecting & Refining a Topic & Annotated Bibliographies

- Read **Chapter 5 in the text**
- Assignment 3 & discussion post due, **Saturday, November 26**

## **Week 4:**

Evaluating & Citing Sources

- Read **Chapter 6 in the text**
- Assignment 6 & discussion post due **Saturday, December 3**
- Quiz due **Saturday, December 3**

## **Week 5:**

Ethical Use of Information

- Read **Chapter 7 in the text**
- Assignment 5 & discussion post due **Saturday, December 10**

## **Week 6:**

Final Project

- Final discussion post due **Tuesday, December 13**
- Annotated Bibliography/Reference List due by **10 am, Friday, December 17**