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INLS 740: Digital Libraries

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Course description

This course will address research and development issues in digital libraries, including: collection development and digitization; mass digitization; text and multimedia materials; metadata; interoperability; architecture; searching and services; economic, legal, and social policies such as copyright; and management and evaluation. Students will read and discuss literature on DLs, evaluate a DL of their choice, and work as a group to develop a prototype DL.

Course objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Understand the technologies involved in the construction of digital libraries,
2. Be able to make collection development decisions for building a digital library,
3. Be able to make decisions regarding the implementation of services and automation for a digital library,
4. Be able to evaluate a digital library with regard to its content and user base,
5. Be able to be involved in the construction and maintenance of a digital library.

Instructor

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Office hours: I am in Seattle, WA for the 2013-14 academic year & will obviously therefore not be holding office hours in person. However I will still be reachable by all of the fine media listed above. Contact me via any means you prefer. I'm happy to schedule a phonecall if you require a longer conversation.

[Curriculum vitae](#)

Course management

We will be working with the following DL platforms: Omeka, DSpace, and CONTENTdm. Aaron B has installed all of these on a test server in the SILS Lab. I will provide you with the login info for all of them.

All course content and activity will be in the course [Sakai](#) site.

I will hold virtual office hours throughout the semester, using [Google Hangouts](#). During the first 2 weeks of the semester we will have 2 Hangouts per week. After that we will probably scale it back to 1 per week.

Synchronicity

This course will blend synchronous and asynchronous elements of online teaching and learning. The following components of the course will be in the following modes:

Asynchronous:

- Content delivery via video micro-lectures
- Discussion in threaded forums

Synchronous:

- Virtual office hours

Minimum technology requirements

In order to participate fully in this course, you will need to have access to a computer, with:

- High-speed internet access
- A webcam
- A microphone

Textbook & reading

Remedial materials

There is one required text for this course:

Witten, I. H., Bainbridge, D., & Nichols, D. M. (2010). *How to Build a Digital Library, 2nd ed.* San Francisco, CA: Morgan Kaufman Publishers.

Available as an [ebook](#) through the UNC libraries.

This ebook is from Ebrary, who provides a download feature for their books. See [these excellent instructions](#) for downloading Ebrary ebooks, written by the fantastic Chad Haefele, Emerging

Technologies Librarian and Computer Science Subject Specialist, Davis Library.

If you prefer to hold paper in your hands, this book is also available in the [Student Stores](#) and [on reserve](#) in the SILS library. Also available [from Amazon](#) or any online bookseller.

All readings will be assigned on the course Schedule. Readings not from HtBaDL will be available on the free web, as an [e-journal](#), via the Library's [e-reserves](#), or via this wiki. Readings are also listed in my [course Pinboard feed](#).

Additional reading

Arms, W. Y. (2000). [Digital Libraries](#). Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press. (Also available from [netLibrary](#), from [ebrary](#), and [on the free web](#))

Bishop, A. P., Van House, N. A., & Buttenfield, B. P. (Eds.). (2003). [Digital Library Use: Social Practice in Design and Evaluation](#). Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Borgman, C. L. (2000). [From Gutenberg to the Global Information Infrastructure](#). Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press. (Also available from [netLibrary](#))

Lesk, M. (1997). [Practical Digital Libraries: Books, Bytes, and Bucks](#). San Francisco, CA: Morgan Kaufman Publishers.

Special issues of journals:

[Library Trends](#), 49(2), Fall 2000. Assessing Digital Library Services, Edited by Thomas A. Peters.

[Information Processing & Management](#), 41(1), January 2005. An Asian Digital Libraries Perspective, Edited by E. A. Fox and E. Logan.

You should read [D-Lib Magazine](#) and the [International Journal on Digital Libraries](#) regularly.

Several conferences devoted to digital libraries exist:

- [Joint Conference on Digital Libraries \(JCDL\)](#)
- [International Conference on Theory and Practice of Digital Libraries \(TPDL, formerly the European Conference on Digital Libraries \(ECDL\)\)](#)
- [International Conference on Asian Digital Libraries \(ICADL\)](#)
- The [Digital Humanities Conference](#) also has a lot of DL-related content

I've also aggregated a bunch of [DL-related RSS feeds](#).

Assignments

[Building a Digital Library](#)

[Status Reports](#)

[Digital Library Review](#)

[Digital Library Evaluation](#)

[Environmental Scanning](#)

Grading rubric & other policies

See my [course grading rubric](#).


See my [course policies](#).

See the [web.unc.edu Online Class Statement](#).

Assignments constitute the following percentage of your final grade:

- Building a Digital Library = 30%
- Metadata Repository = 10%
- Status Reports = 20% (4 reports at 5 points per)
- DL Review = 10%
- Digital Library Evaluation = 10%
- Environmental Scanning = 10% (5 reports at 2 points per)
- Participation = 10%

Schedule

See the [Schedule from Spring 2013](#) . Note: this is the schedule as it stands at the start of the semester, & may not reflect subsequent changes.

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