**INLS 515 - Consumer Health Information – Fall 2015**

215 Manning Hall **Class:** Monday, 12:20-3:05 pm

919-962-8362 Room 303

gollop@ils.unc.edu **Office hours**: Wed. 2-3 pm **& by appointment**

**Course Description**

The course will explore resources and services to be selected and evaluated when providing consumer health information (CHI) in various types of information environments, including governmental, non-profit, and commercial settings. The course will cover the CHI movement, current trends in health technology and future projections, as well as the impact of CHI on different segments of society (i.e., adolescents, older adults, patients of specific illnesses).

**Course Objectives**

* Upon completion of this class students will:
* Better understand the CHI movement (origins, history, international issues,)
* Be knowledgeable about the CHI access and various user groups.
* Be able to identify and evaluate sources of CHI in print, non-print, and on the Web
* Be able to identify CHI-related career paths
* Be familiar with appropriate organizations, policies, and trends related to CHI

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**:

* 4 class presentations\*
* 3 individual (article, website, organization) = 30%
* Midterm assignment\*\* = 20%
* Final paper/project presentation\*\*\* = 30%
* Class attendance and participation =10%

**Course Readings:**

You are expected to complete all readings for the class on the date indicated. **No textbook is required for this course.** **Unless otherwise noted**, all readings will be available either on Sakai or via the UNC Library <http://eresources.lib.unc.edu/eid/>

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**\*Class presentations**

**Student selected reading**

-Each student will select an article for presentation and class discussion.

-The article is of your choosing and is to be relevant to CHI.

-Each student will provide the class with a citation to the article selected (via email), so that everyone can access all of the readings later.

-Each student will give me a brief abstract of the article. **Due: October 5, 2015**

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**Student selected website**

-Each student will select a website for review, and presentation and class discussion.

-The website is of your choosing and is to be relevant to CHI.

-Each student will provide the class with a title and URL to the website selected (via email), so that everyone can access all of them later.

-Each student will give me a brief abstract of the website. **Due: October 26, 2015**

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**Student selected organization**

-Each student will select an agency or organization for review, and presentation and class discussion.

-The organization is of your choosing and is to be relevant to CHI.

-Each student will provide the class with a name and purpose/function of the agency/organization selected (via email).

-Each student will give me a brief abstract describing the organization. **Due: November 23, 2015**

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**\*\*Midterm Assignment**

Website Evaluations.

Each student will evaluate three (3) CHI related websites. You are to pay attention to the standards listed in the Criteria for *Evaluating Internet Health Information:* <http://www.ahrq.gov/data/infoqual.htm> from the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research.

In addition to submitting a detailed assessment of each site, you will discuss any similarities and/or differences among the websites you select.

You are not obligated to use these, but this may get you started; *MLA Top Health Websites:* [*https://www.mlanet.org/resources/medspeak/topten.html*](https://www.mlanet.org/resources/medspeak/topten.html) from the Consumer and Patient Health Information Section of the Medical Library Association. **Due:** October 19, 2015

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**\*\*\*Final paper/project presentation**

The final term project will be the design of a Consumer Health Information-related proposal, product or service. You may create it for a specific audience, health condition, environment, etc.

**Note: In** addition to submitting the full project/paper, including background literature review, a brief summary of the project will be prepared for presentation in class.

**Presentations Due:** November 30, 2015

**Final assignment Due:** December 4, 2015

**The Honor Code:**

All students are expected to follow the Honor Code: <http://honor.unc.edu/>

**Diversity Statement:**

In support of the University’s diversity goals and the mission of the School of Information and Library Science, SILS embraces diversity as an ethical and societal value. We broadly define diversity to include race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, social class, age, sexual orientation, and physical and learning ability. As an academic community committed to preparing our graduates to be leaders in an increasingly multicultural and global society we strive to:

* Ensure inclusive leadership, policies, and practices;
* Integrate diversity into the curriculum and research;
* Foster a mutually respectful intellectual environment in which diverse opinions are valued;
* Recruit traditionally underrepresented groups of students, faculty, and staff; and
* Participate in outreach to underserved groups in the State.

The statement represents a commitment of resources to the development and maintenance of an academic environment that is open, representative, reflective, and committed to the concepts of equity and fairness. Have a great semester! I hope you enjoy this course and all of your courses. If you have any questions concerning the course, please let me know and we will discuss them.