**Summer 2021 Graduate Course Descriptions**

Information School

March 19, 2021 – Subject to Change

**Note: All course offerings will be taught ONLINE**

**LIS 603: Research and Assessment for Information Professionals (Session DHH 6/14-8/8)**
Introduces students to research, evaluation and assessment practices. Prepares students to design and implement a research or assessment project. Provides an overview of commonly employed data collection methodologies and introduces students to both qualitative and quantitative analysis approaches that may be employed in evaluation, assessment and research.

**LIS 620: Field Project in Library and Information Agencies (Session DHH 6/14-8/8)**
The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain professional experience in an information agency. The course consists of a minimum of 120 hours in the agency and participation in an online class, in which students discuss the placements and the application of professional theory to the work place. Students work with the supervising professional at your agency to determine work responsibilities and schedule; student schedules must be flexible enough to accommodate possible weekday, weeknight and weekend hours.

For directions on how to request a placement and the placement request form, see: https://ischool.wisc.edu/current-students/practicum/

Requests for Summer placements should be sent to Debra Shapiro (dsshapiro@wisc.edu) the course instructor, and are due February 1.

Note: School library concentration students should contact Allison Kaplan (agkaplan@wisc.edu)

**LIS 632: Metadata Standards (Session DHH 6/14-8/8)**
This course provides an overview of the design and use of metadata for resource description, management, and retrieval in digital environments. Students learn to implement and evaluate standard schemes used in cultural heritage, business data, and other contexts including Dublin Core, MODS, VRA and others. Issues of information behavior, vocabulary control, sharing and interoperability, quality assurance, and automation are covered.

**LIS 640-005, 006: Topic: Linked Data (1 cr; meets session ACC, meets 5/24-6/13): Online**
This course teaches the fundamentals of linked data ("Semantic Web") technologies. It includes reading linked data graphs, reading and writing various linked data syntaxes (N-Triples, Turtle, RDF/XML, microdata), understanding and using common linked data vocabularies, and SPARQL querying.

**LIS 640-007, 008: Topic: Genealogy (1 cr; meets session CCC; 6/7-6/27)**
This course provides an introduction to genealogy and genealogical research, the basic research cycle, and common records and resources, and strategies used to complete family history reference requests. We’ll explore the history and evolution of genealogy as a popular pastime in the United States, the growth and monetization of genealogy services, and other current topics including DNA testing and crowd-sourced research. Students will gain confidence and skills to handle basic genealogical research questions through lectures, readings, discussions, and by completing multiple reference-related assignments. Students will explore the relationship between genealogists and libraries/archives and how to serve this population through focused collection development and public service.

**LIS 640-009, 010: Topic: Services to Diverse Populations (3 credits; meets session DHH; Online 6/14-8/8)**
This class will focus on working with diverse communities in a library setting, exploring such topics as equity of access, cultural competence, and community engagement. Over the course of the class, students
will develop a toolkit on working with a specific community of their choosing, featuring advice, best practices, policies, and resource lists.

**LIS 644: Digital Tools, Trends, and Debates (Session DHH 6/14-8/8)**

This course provides an overview of information and communication technologies and digital media that are currently widely used in society at large, in relationship to cultural heritage organizations, research and education, and information agencies within the context of current controversies surrounding technology use.

The course goals include providing students with:

- Ability to evaluate, plan for, select, and safely and securely use digital technologies;
- Awareness of the social and legal forces that create digital technologies and technology standards, controversies surrounding their development, use and modification, and the complex relationship between digital technologies and the future of information agencies;
- An understanding that acquiring technical knowledge takes a commitment to life-long learning;
- Development of ethical and principled approaches to technology adoption and education.

**LIS 707: Data Visualization & Communication for Decision Making (Session ZNN 5/17-8/22)**

This course will introduce key concepts in data visualization and communication for the purposes of decision making in organizations. It covers how and why visualization can be an effective tool for summarizing, analyzing and communicating about data, as well as the limitations and challenges in using data visualizations, including misrepresentation and bias. Emphasizing hands-on and practical learning.

**LIS 712: The Public Library (Session DHH 6/14-8/8)**

The course is designed to be a thorough introduction to public library services and administration. Topics include history, structure and governance; finance and budgeting; management and planning; the library's role in the community; personnel management and staff development; public relations and marketing; legislation and advocacy; services, programming and outreach; technology; and facilities, building and maintenance. We will consider developing trends in consumer behavior, particularly in regards to digital technologies, that have an impact on the types of services the public expects from a library. There is also an emphasis on the importance of the Library Director, Department Heads, and Library Board working together for the best interests of the community they serve.