

Syllabus

Department: Division of Library and Information Science

Course Number and Title: LIS 302 Genealogical Sources & Services

Bulletin Description: [25 words maximum]

This course enables more effective service by providing a general understanding of the genealogical research and the researchers—including vocabulary, tools, methods, sources, and needs—and how to assist them.

Prerequisite(s): None

Co-requisite(s): None

Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to learn how to guide researchers in genealogical research. We will accomplish this through

- Doing our own research,
- Helping our classmates do their research, and
- Reflecting in writing on both.

Program Goals and Outcomes:

3A. Understand the principles involved and the developmental, descriptive, and evaluative skills needed in the organization, representation and retrieval of recorded knowledge and information resources.

4A. Acquire, apply, analyze and assess information, communication, assistive, and other technological skills related to resources, service delivery, professionalism, efficacy, and cost-efficiency of current technologies and relevant technological improvements.

5A. Demonstrate knowledge and usage of the concepts, principles, and techniques of reference and user services, as well as retrieval techniques and evaluation methods, that provide access to relevant and accurate recorded knowledge and information from diverse sources to all patrons.

5B. Understand and demonstrate ability to interact successfully with individuals of all ages and groups to provide consultation, mediation, and guidance in their use of recorded knowledge and information, including information literacy techniques and methods.

5C. Understand and apply the principles of assessment towards communities, user preferences, and services and resources, as well as promoting methods of advocacy through development and services.

Units of Instruction:

1: Planning

- 2: Record Keeping
- 3: Evaluating Evidence
- 4: Using and Evaluating Databases
- 5: Finding, Evaluating and Using Primary Sources (These will continue to be explored throughout the entire course by type; for example vital statistics, census records, land records, estate and probate records, church records, court records, military records, newspapers, immigration records, and directories).
- 6: Creating Personal Histories and Research Documents
- 7: Finding, Evaluating and Using Family and Household Records
- 8: Finding, Using and Evaluating Photographs
- 9: Finding, Using and Evaluating Web Sites and Web 2.0 communications
- 10: Finding, Using and Evaluating Published Family Histories
- 11: Finding, Evaluating and Using Resources of Family, Hereditary, Lineage and Local History Organizations
- 12: Finding, Evaluating and Using Resources of Genealogical and Local History Libraries
- 13: Finding, Evaluating and Using Information from Periodicals
- 14: Presentations, Evaluation and Conclusion

Bibliography:

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http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources;
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/toc/ecip0420/2004015926.html>;
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- Stevenson, N. C. (1979). *Genealogical evidence : A guide to the standard of proof relating to pedigrees, ancestry, heirship, and family history*. Laguna Hills, Calif.: Aegean Park Press.
- Szucs, L. D., & Luebking, S. H. (2006). *The source : A guidebook to american genealogy* (3rd ed.). Provo, UT: Ancestry. Retrieved from
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<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/enhancements/fy0728/2006005027-d.html>
- Thorndale, W., & Dollarhide, W. (1987). *Map guide to the U.S. federal censuses, 1790-1920*. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co.

New York State Education Department Requirements

1. Contact Hours – 30 hours
Comprised of the following:
 - Periodic announcements/discussion posts by the instructor
 - Lecture (online or face to face)
 - Monitoring group discussions
 - Reviewing assignments
 - Advising on semester projects
 - Email interaction
2. Supplementary Hours – 120 hours
Comprised of the following:
 - Assigned reading
 - Weekly assignments (individual and group)
 - Research for semester projects
 - Presentations (online or face to face)
 - Academic Service-Learning projects (where appropriate)