

Syllabus Format

Department: Division of Library and Information Science

Course Number and Title: LIS 271 Special Topics in LIS Teen Spaces

Bulletin Description: [25 words maximum]

This course is designed to introduce library students to the built environment by exploring the relationship between humans and the spaces they inhabit.

Prerequisite(s): None

Co-requisite(s): None

Course Objectives:

1. To provide an understanding of the built environment, its interdisciplinary nature, and the disciplines that each played a role in shaping how it developed
2. To explore how social control operates in the built environment
3. To examine behavior in, and use of, teen spaces as a consequence of design (or the built environment)
4. To provide an understanding of the history of adolescence
5. To provide an overview of the history and current landscape of library services to teens
6. To provide an understanding of the changing role of the library as space and place
7. To explore how notions of teens influence creation of teen spaces
8. To explore how design and design elements (e.g., furniture) influence use/behavior in the teen space
9. At the end of this course, you should be able to use the knowledge gained to assess public library teen spaces for authenticity and to create authentic public library teen spaces

Program Goals and Outcomes:

1A) Demonstrate knowledge of the ethics, values, and foundational principles and the role of library and information professionals in the promotion of democratic and legal principles and intellectual freedom.

1B) Understand the history of human communication and its impact on libraries, and the importance of effective verbal and written advocacy for libraries, librarians, other library workers and library services.

1C) Demonstrate knowledge of historical and present-day libraries and librarianship as well as significant national and international policies and trends within the library and information profession.

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.

Units of Instruction:

Week 1:

No Place to Call Their Own: Teens, Libraries, and Public Spaces.

Introduction to the Built Environment.

Week 2:

Space Matters.

Planned Spaces and Social Order: Social Control in the Built Environment.

Week 3:

Teens, Space, and the Public Library.

Defining Adolescence: History of Adolescence.

Week 4:

From Defining to Demonizing: Attitudes about Teens.

Notions of Teens and the Public Library Teen Space.

Attitudes about Teens in the Public Library

Week 5:

The Public Library as Space and Place: Changing Role of the Public Library.

The Impact of Technology on the Public Library: Making Space for Technology

Week 6:

Making Space for Teens

Creating Authentic Teen Spaces

Week 7:

Wrap up

Bibliography:

The Hidden Dimension, by Edward T. Hall. Anchor Books, 1990[1966].

Teen Spaces: The Step-by-Step Library Makeover, by Kimberly Bolan (2nd ed.) ALA, 2009

Teens & Libraries: Getting it Right, by Walter & Meyers, ALA, 2003.

Youth, Society, and the Public Library, by Braverman ALA, 1979.

Instructional Time Requirements: 150 hours for 3 credits (10 hours per week for our 15 week semester)

Asynchronous or synchronous Lecture

Assigned weekly reading

Weekly assignments (individual and group)

Active participation in online discussions

Research for semester-long projects (term papers, projects)

Presentations (online or face to face)

Academic Service-Learning projects (where appropriate)