



Cs121g – Introduction to Information Literacy and Research for Scientists.

Spring 2012

Lecture: 3 Hours, 3 Credits

Lecture	26649	0930-1045	Tues/Thurs	Ocnps 0100
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Lecture 3 hours; Recitation 1 hour; 3 credits.

Laboratory work required.

Instructor: C. Boyle

Office: Dragas 1100D (old Hughes Hall)

Phone: (757) 683-5016 ext: 6289

Email: cboyle@cs.odu.edu (please include your name & class lecture CRN)

Office Hours: posted at <http://www.cs.odu.edu/~cboyle> and updated regularly.

- You may contact me, so that other hours may be arranged.
- Adjustments to the above hours may be made and announced in class.

Class Web Site: Course grades and messaging 'Portal': <https://infolit.cs.odu.edu>

Course blackboard site available at: <https://www.blackboard.odu.edu>

Course Description:

The objective of this course is to enhance the ability of students to locate, manage, critically evaluate, and use information for problem solving, research, and decision making in a complex digital world. Students will learn methods of information retrieval from sources such as the World Wide Web, digital libraries, and Internet databases. Emphasis will be given to accessing information effectively and efficiently using university resources as a primary method and associated methods including educational, private and governmental sources, search engines, blogs, and social networking tools. This includes evaluation, management, organization and summarization of information for specific purposes. Students will use office productivity tools to formulate and present information. In addition they will be introduced to collaborative tools for effective group development of presentations and documents. We will discuss information guidelines, ethics, security, laws, regulations, institutional policies, and etiquette related to the access and use of information resources. This syllabus is subject to change by the instructor. Changes will be announced in class and/or email.

Text Books:

- The Pearson Custom Edition for Information Literacy Vol - 1 & 2 with online access ISBN - 9781256302100
- Research Strategies: Finding Your Way through the Information Fog - By William Badke 4th edition ISBN - 9781462010172

Course Topics:

- Introduction to information retrieval from sources such as the World Wide Web, digital libraries, and internet databases.
- Accessing information effectively and efficiently using search engines, blogs, and social networking tools.
- Evaluation, management, organization and summarization of information for specific purposes.
- Use of office productivity tools to formulate and present information.
- Introduction to collaborative tools for effective group development of presentations and documents.
- Discussion of information security, laws, regulations, institutional policies, and etiquette related to the access and use of information resources.

Course Objectives:

Through the use of assignments, projects, and case studies students will be given research topics for which they must:

1. Determine the nature and extent of the information needed.
2. Identify a variety of types and formats of potential sources for information.
3. Access needed information effectively and efficiently to include:
 - a. costs and benefits of acquiring the needed information.
 - b. most appropriate investigative methods or information retrieval systems for accessing the needed information
 - c. implement effectively-designed search strategies.
4. Extract records, and manages the information and its sources.
5. Summarize the main ideas to be extracted from the information gathered
6. Articulate and apply initial criteria for evaluating both the information and its sources.
7. Individually or as a member of a group, use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
8. Understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information to include:

- a. Accessing and using information ethically and legally
- b. Following laws, regulations, institutional policies, and etiquette related to the access and use of information resources

Outcomes:

1. Determine the nature and extent of the information needed for research
2. Access information effectively and efficiently
3. Critically evaluate information and information sources, such as library, Databases, collections, or websites appropriate to the field of research
4. Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose or to complete a specific project
5. Understand the economic, social, legal, and ethical issues surrounding the access and use of information
6. Use information ethically and lawfully.

Grade Distribution:

Tasks	Percentage
Assignments & Presentations (MYITLAB Modules(20%)+ Assignment1(5%)+ Assignment2(15%)+ Assignment 3(15%))	55%
Quizzes	10%
Exam 1	10%
Exam 2	10%
Exam 3	15%
Total	100%

- The syllabus is subject to modification at the discretion of the instructor, throughout the semester. Changes will be announced in class.