DESCRIPTION

Overview of foundations of information studies and relevant concepts and theoretical frameworks. Examination of research methodologies used in the field, including quantitative, qualitative and project management methods.

CONTENT

This is a foundations course. The topics and concepts covered are presented at an introductory-level, intended to provide a basis for future coursework.

- What is information studies?
- A brief history of the field and the role of information and communication technology
- Different types of information organizations
- Managing Information organizations
  o Budgets, personnel
- Research in context
  o Examples: libraries, human-computer interaction
- The Profession
  o The role of professionals
  o Issues

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the history and current trends of the field
- Define various roles and responsibilities of information professionals
- Describe basic management concepts and functions in the context of information organizations
- Explain the research process from formulation of a research question to application of a methodology for data collection, data analysis, and writing the results
- Apply planning strategies to their own academic and professional goals and objectives
The required textbook for the course is:


The following books are on reserve for GLIS 601, or are available through McGill Library:


Please note that most resources shared or shown in class, including lecture slides, will be made available at myCourses. However, these are not academic publications and should not be cited in academic research papers.

**Evaluation**

Evaluation is based on team PowerPoint reports, Team Contribution report, individual plans, and final examinations.

- Team PPT Reports: Teams of three students will produce a PowerPoint report for assigned topics. The reports will be shared in the class for discussion. (21%)
- Team Contribution: Team members will evaluate each member’s contribution. (3%)
- Team paper: a critical evaluation of a research article will be produced by the team. (25%)
✓ Each student will produce a professional and academic development plan to identify her/his professional and academic goals and objectives. The plan will include a self-assessment, a vision of future professional and academic achievement, goals and objectives, strategies to achieve them, a timeline, deliverables, and a tentative description of a Portfolio. (15%)

✓ Final examination: a take-home exam will cover the content of the course. Students will have 72 hours to complete the examination. (35%)

✓ Class participation: The course is based on active contribution and participation of students. Students are expected to contribute to their teams and participate in class discussions. (1%)