

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES
University of Alberta

LIS 501

INTRODUCTION TO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

*3(first term, 3-0-0)

Instructor: Anna E. Altmann

Calendar

Description: An introduction to the historical, current, and potential roles of library and information professionals in western society. Introduces the study of environmental factors affecting library and information services. Economic, social, legal, political, technological and professional factors will be examined. Required course.

Objectives: To provide an introduction to the MLIS program, the literature of library and information studies, and the Edmonton library community.

To develop an understanding of the changing roles of the library as a learning, informational, storage, and societal institution.

To provide an overview of the historical, present, and future roles of libraries and librarians, information centres and information specialists, in the North American context.

To introduce current issues in libraries and information studies.

Content: Topics include library history, types of libraries, the role of libraries in society, the service ethic of the profession, professional associations, education for librarianship and the knowledge base of the field, intellectual freedom and intellectual property, the library literature.

Method: Lectures, class discussion and presentation, guest speakers, a tour

Evaluation:

Class Participation	
10%	
Historical Persons	20%
Major paper	40%
Group presentation	10%
Article review	20%

Required text: MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 4th ed., 1995.

September 1998