

Library Science 101: Library Research Methods

Los Angeles Valley College/ Section 1300/ Spring 2016

8 week course, starts 2/8/16, ends 4/1/16

Instructor: Jeffry Jensen

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Office hours: 9:05am (after class), Mondays and Wednesdays

Class meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays, 8-9:05am in LARC 100

Credit: 1 unit course transferable to UC and CSU

Course objectives: 1) Explain the difference between the online library catalog and the online periodical indexes; 2) Differentiate between the various formats used to retrieve information; 3) Use the library's online catalog and databases to effectively search for books, reference materials and articles; 4) Demonstrate how a call number assists in locating the corresponding item in the library using the Library of Congress Classification System; 5) Use internet resources to effectively search for information and evaluate websites to determine their academic merit; 6) Use different types of information sources in appropriate contexts; 7) Create a "Works Cited" list for electronic and print resources.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO): 1) Students will be able to use the LAVC Library's print and electronic resources; 2) Students will be able to conduct library research and be able to formulate the steps necessary to write a research paper.

Course requirements: The required textbook for this class is *The College Student's Research Companion* (5th ed., 2011) by Arlene R. Quaratiello with Jane Devine. There will be weekly assignments as well as 2 tests and a final project consisting of a short paper and presentation. Please note that you will receive a letter grade for this class.

Grade will be based on: Assignments (10%), tests (70%), and a final project (20%).

SSD statement: If you are a student with a disability requiring classroom accommodations, and have not contacted SSD, do so in a timely manner. SSD is located in the Student Services Annex, Room 175 or call SSD at (818) 947-2681 or TTD (818) 947-2680 to meet with a SSD counselor.

Student conduct statement: LAVC has established an academic dishonesty policy in accordance with the standards of student conduct. The policy can be found in the college catalog, and it is the student's responsibility to be familiar with its provisions. Academic dishonesty—including cheating—will be reported to the Department Chair and the Vice President of Student Services.

Week 1: Mon. 2/8, Wed. 2/10

Reference and "meet and greet"

ALA principles of democracy

Library systems overview

Week 5: Mon. 3/7, Wed. 3/9

Internet search engines

Academic websites

Google Scholar

Week 2: Wed. 2/17

Books—in print and online

Week 6: Mon. 3/14, Wed. 3/16

Copyright, plagiarism, and citing sources

Writing the research paper

Week 3: Mon. 2/22, Wed. 2/24

Books continued

Periodicals

Research approach and planning

Week 7: Mon. 3/21, Wed. 3/23

Writing the research paper continued

Website evaluation

Week 4: Mon. 2/29, Wed. 3/2

Library databases

Designing a search strategy

Infotrac, CQ, GVRL

Week 8: Mon. 3/28, Wed. 3/30

Website evaluation continued

Reference books

Final projects and presentations are due