

1. General Information

1a. Submitted by the College of: COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Date Submitted: 2/26/2013

1b. Department/Division: Library & Information Science

1c. Contact Person

Name: Will Buntin

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Phone: 859-257-3317

Responsible Faculty ID (if different from Contact)

Name: Hong Zhang

Email: hong.zhang@uky.edu

Phone: 859-257-4136

1d. Requested Effective Date: Semester following approval

1e. Should this course be a UK Core Course? No

2. Designation and Description of Proposed Course

2a. Will this course also be offered through Distance Learning?: Yes ⁴

2b. Prefix and Number: LIS 634

2c. Full Title: Information Architecture

2d. Transcript Title:

2e. Cross-listing:

2f. Meeting Patterns

LECTURE: X

2g. Grading System: Letter (A, B, C, etc.)

2h. Number of credit hours: 3

2i. Is this course repeatable for additional credit? No

If Yes: Maximum number of credit hours:

If Yes: Will this course allow multiple registrations during the same semester?

Revisions to New Course Form
LIS 634 Information Architecture

The following are changes to the responses on the new course form as of 1/8/2013.

2F. Other, online, asynchronous

5. Yes

Will Buntin
Assistant Director, UK SLIS

2j. Course Description for Bulletin: The course introduces the concepts and practices of information architectures (IA) for a Web site within the context of the organization it serves. It aims to acquaint students with principles and process of information architecture for user-centered design of websites. It also provides students the opportunity to develop practical skills related to the design of information organization and navigation systems. The course prepares students for the companion technical course of "content management systems" where they will apply the theories and techniques studied in this course to the implementation of a fully functional website.

2k. Prerequisites, if any:

2l. Supplementary Teaching Component:

3. Will this course taught off campus? No

If YES, enter the off campus address:

4. Frequency of Course Offering: Fall,

Will the course be offered every year?: Yes

If No, explain:

5. Are facilities and personnel necessary for the proposed new course available?: No

If No, explain: New course from existing faculty

6. What enrollment (per section per semester) may reasonably be expected?: 30

7. Anticipated Student Demand

Will this course serve students primarily within the degree program?: Yes

Will it be of interest to a significant number of students outside the degree pgm?: No

If Yes, explain: [var7InterestExplain]

8. Check the category most applicable to this course: Relatively New – Now Being Widely Established,

If No, explain: New course from existing faculty

9. Course Relationship to Program(s).

a. Is this course part of a proposed new program?: No

If YES, name the proposed new program:

b. Will this course be a new requirement for ANY program?: No

If YES, list affected programs:

10. Information to be Placed on Syllabus.

a. Is the course 400G or 500?: No

b. The syllabus, including course description, student learning outcomes, and grading policies (and 400G-/500-level grading differentiation if applicable, from 10.a above) are attached: Yes

Distance Learning Form

Instructor Name: Hong Zhang

Instructor Email: hong.zhang@uky.edu

Internet/Web-based: Yes

Interactive Video: No

Hybrid: No

1. How does this course provide for timely and appropriate interaction between students and faculty and among students? Does the course syllabus conform to University Senate Syllabus Guidelines, specifically the Distance Learning Considerations? Timely and appropriate interaction will be possible through Blackboard, email and other online communication tools (i.e., Adobe Connect, Skype). Syllabus was designed with online instruction in mind. Syllabus conforms to Senate guidelines. Syllabus includes statement on timeliness of response to inquiries.

2. How do you ensure that the experience for a DL student is comparable to that of a classroom-based student's experience? Aspects to explore: textbooks, course goals, assessment of student learning outcomes, etc. Many aspects of face to face instruction are intact with this online course including items like course goals and learning objectives. Assessment will take place through items like discussion posts, tests, projects or papers. Additionally, course may make use of online tools such as discussion boards, email, video presentations and other communication methods to help improve the overall experience.

3. How is the integrity of student work ensured? Please speak to aspects such as password-protected course portals, proctors for exams at interactive video sites; academic offense policy; etc. Each student's Blackboard account is tied to their myUK account. Assignments such as papers will be handled much the same as they would be in a face to face course in terms of being evaluated for possible issues in regards to the academic offense policy.

4. Will offering this course via DL result in at least 25% or at least 50% (based on total credit hours required for completion) of a degree program being offered via any form of DL, as defined above? No.

If yes, which percentage, and which program(s)? 0% no programs.

5. How are students taking the course via DL assured of equivalent access to student services, similar to that of a student taking the class in a traditional classroom setting? Since our program has long had remote students (primarily around Louisville and northern Kentucky), we have tried to make student services as accessible as possible. Our program uses a listserv for program announcements and we employ a full-time student affairs officer who regularly communicates with our students, regardless of location. We also have a Blackboard organization to further assist in providing student services to remote participants. Additionally, we encourage students to use services such as Distance Learning Library Services when appropriate.

6. How do course requirements ensure that students make appropriate use of learning resources? In order to successfully complete assignments such as class participation, quizzes and projects, students will have to use their textbook, course readings and supplementary materials available through UK Libraries.

7. Please explain specifically how access is provided to laboratories, facilities, and equipment appropriate to the course or program. Students will not require access to equipment outside of a personal computer and appropriate software. Students will primarily use the services of UK's Distance Learning, UK Distance Learning Library and electronic access to UK Libraries.

8.How are students informed of procedures for resolving technical complaints? Does the syllabus list the entities available to offer technical help with the delivery and/or receipt of the course, such as the Information Technology Customer Service Center (<http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/>)? Students are informed via the syllabus and given contact information for technical issues.

9.Will the course be delivered via services available through the Distance Learning Program (DLP) and the Academic Technology Group (ATL)? YES

If no, explain how student enrolled in DL courses are able to use the technology employed, as well as how students will be provided with assistance in using said technology. We will be using services through DLP.

10.Does the syllabus contain all the required components? NO

11.I, the instructor of record, have read and understood all of the university-level statements regarding DL.

Instructor Name: Hong Zhang

LIS 634 Information Architecture Fall, 2012

Instructor: Hong Zhang
Email: zhanghong920@gmail.com
Office: 355 Little Library Building
Office hours: Wednesday 9am – 12pm
Office phone: 859-257-4136
Skype: zhanghong920 (available during office hours)
Preferred Communication: It is easiest to email me directly with questions or to set up an appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course introduces the concepts and practices of information architectures (IA) for a Web site within the context of the organization it serves. It aims to acquaint students with principles and process of information architecture for user-centered design of websites. It also provides students the opportunity to develop practical skills related to the design of information organization and navigation systems. The course prepares students for the companion technical course of “content management systems” where they will apply the theories and techniques studied in this course to the implementation of a fully functional website.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, participants will

1. Understand the objectives, functions and applications of information architectures for an organization’s web site.
2. Be able to identify and analyze the components and problems of a given information architecture and to suggest a more effective and efficient architecture based on the framework of representation and organization.
3. Be familiar with the process and methodology of information architecture research and design
4. Be familiar with IA-related techniques and tools and be able to produce deliverable documentation

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Author web pages
- Use research methods to better understand user needs and behavior
- Develop navigational systems, labeling systems, and taxonomies for web sites
- Create personas and scenarios describing the key aspects of a proposed/re-designed Web site as well as the interactions between the user and the functional modules in the solution
- Create site map
- Create screen details (i.e., wireframes) depicting elements on the main page and another Web page of the proposed/re-designed Web site
- Create a report describing or making recommendations for a Web site design.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required textbook:

Morville, P. and Rosenfeld, L. (2007). Information Architecture for the World Wide Web. 3rd edition. O'Reilly.

Additional readings will be provided to supplement the textbook.

COURSE FORMAT

LIS634 Information Architecture is an asynchronous online course and includes no classroom sessions. All the course materials and activities are facilitated in the Blackboard course management system. Please visit <http://www.uky.edu/Blackboard/> to learn about this system and the login requirements. You should be automatically added to the Blackboard roll; if this goes as expected, you will not have to sign up manually for the course. Blackboard help is available online through the Blackboard wiki website (<http://wiki.uky.edu/Blackboard/Wiki%20Pages/Home.aspx>), and from the UK helpdesk (859-257-1300; <http://www.uky.edu/IT/CustomerService/>). The helpdesk is also able to assist with all general computing issues (file download, browser updates, etc.). All course materials (syllabus, assignments, calendar, etc) will be available in Blackboard when classes begin.

COMMUNICATION

Post your questions on the Blackboard Discussion board because other students may have the same confusions. To make an appointment, you can email me with "634IA" included in the subject line (**Note: please use my gmail account to avoid delay**). My goal is to respond to emails within 24 hours.

TECHNOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS

Please check the minimum technology requirement for online courses (<http://www.uky.edu/DistanceLearning/current/technology/techReqs.html>). You will need access to an appropriate computer with a broadband Internet connection. NOTE that it is YOUR responsibility to ensure you have a reliable computer for use during the course. Ongoing "computer problems" will not be considered a legitimate excuse for missing course activities. If you have a computer that is known to be unreliable, you should rectify that situation. Note that all UK students are eligible for a one time free download of Office from the UK download site (<https://download.uky.edu>). You can contact UK's Information Technology Customer Service Center (859.257.4357; <http://www.uky.edu/ukit/>) if you need help.

You will also need a headset, good network connection, and the ability to use Adobe Connect for group discussion and mid-term and final presentations.

ASSESSMENT & ASSIGNMENTS

This course is an asynchronous online course without classroom sessions. In each week, you are expected to complete the required readings and the short lecture video on the week's topics. The final grade is based on the following projects:

- (10%) Participation: Each student will select a week's topic to lead the discussion. The student will prepare a summary of the readings, post at least two discussion questions, respond and shape the discussion during that

week. The other students are expected to participate in the discussion with quality posts. A missed week will have 1% deducted in the final grade. Participation will be graded throughout the semester.

- (5%) Create your own personal Web site (either on Google Site or UK SWeb or another server you own) to introduce yourself. The site should include at least the following information: a short bio with contact information, the courses you have taken, and your picture. Due by the end of the third week of class.

- (15%) Mid-term presentation: students form groups of two and select a topic from the “IA-related Areas, Methods & Techniques” topic list, compose introductory material for the area/method/technique, and present on the mid-term presentation (online).

- (60%) IA assignments: Identify a Web site that you would like to design or re-design at the start of the semester, then work on a series IA assignments during the semester. Detailed instructions will be provided in separate instructions. There will be four assignments spaced throughout the semester.

- (10%) Final report: Incorporate pieces from your IA assignments, revised as needed. This will serve as your final exam and will be due during finals week.

Final grading scale:

90% and above	=	A
80% to 89%	=	B
70% to 79%	=	C
below 70%	=	E

I assign the grade of I (incomplete) only when I am convinced the student’s circumstances warrant it.

The due-dates of these assignments will be posted on the Blackboard. Late submissions are subject to a penalty of 0.5% off per day.

TOPICS SCHEDULE

- Week1: Introduction to the course
- Week2: Introduction to Information architecture and user behaviors
- Week3: Organization systems
- Week4: Labeling system
- Week5: Controlled vocabularies and metadata
- Week6: Navigation systems
- Week7: Search systems
- Week7: Mid-term presentation: Areas, Methods & Techniques
- Week8: Information architecture process and methodology
- Week9: Usability and accessibility
- Week10: Design and documentation: site maps
- Week11: Design and documentation: personas, scenarios
- Week12: Design and documentation: wireframes
- Week13: Deliverables
- Week14: Presentation: final report

ETHICS & POLICIES

Academic Integrity:

According to Senate Regulation 6.3.1: “All academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.” For specific information regarding the University’s code and regulations on plagiarism and cheating, visit:

<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/>

<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html>

<http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/Plagiarism.pdf>: “Plagiarism: What is it?”

Papers or assignments prepared for other classes cannot be used to fulfill the requirements of this class.

Excused Absences, Incompletes, & Academic Accommodations due to Disability:

You can find policies on “excused absences”, “incompletes”, and “academic accommodations due to disability” at <http://www.uky.edu/CIS/SLIS/academics/policies.pdf>.

Diversity Statement:

All UK professional education programs address and affirm the value of diversity in education, the use of technology to support all aspects of instructional programming, and the importance of attaining high levels of skill in assessing the outcomes of instruction. This course will provide students an opportunity to demonstrate attention to these themes and reflect on the mechanisms that this course has provided to demonstrate improved skills in these areas.

Academic Accommodations Statement:

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations in this course, please make your request to the University Disability Resource Center. The Center will require current disability documentation. When accommodations are approved, the Center will provide me with a Letter of Accommodation which details the recommended accommodations. Contact the Disability Resource Center, Jake Karnes, Director at 859-257-2754 or jkarnes@email.uky.edu.

TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Distance Learning Students are expected to have a minimum level of technological acumen and the availability of technological resources. Students must have regular access a computer with a reliable Internet connection and audio capabilities. Internet Explorer 7 (IE) or Firefox 2.x are the recommended browsers for those using a Windows-based PC. Those using Firefox 3.x may encounter problems with assignment uploads. Those using an Apple computer with MAC OS X (10.5.x) may use Firefox 3.x or Safari 3.x.

Please be certain that your computer and/or browser allow you to view Adobe Reader documents (.pdf). Microsoft Office and other software products are available free for students:

<https://iweb.uky.edu/MSDownload/>

Where to get Help

As your instructor, I am your first go-to person for technology problems. If you need more immediate assistance, please contact:

Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT)

<http://www.uky.edu/celt/>

859-257-8272

Information Technology Customer Service Center (UKIT)

<http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/>

859-257-1300

Library Services

Distance Learning Services

<http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS>

Carla Cantagallo, DL Librarian

Local phone number: 859 257-0500, ext. 2171

Long distance phone number: (800) 828-0439 (option #6)

Email: dllservice@email.uky.edu

DL Interlibrary Loan Service:

http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/libpage.php?lweb_id=253&llib_id=16

Course Reserves

http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/page.php?lweb_id=23<ab_rank=3