

New Course Proposal

Submit completed form electronically

1. **Course prefix and course number: LIS 186**
2. **Course title: Academic Workshop: Research and Information Literacy Skills**
3. **Abbreviated title for class schedule (30 characters or less): Academic Workshop: Research**
4. **Credit hours: 2**
5. **Catalog description:**

LIS 186

Academic Workshop: Research and Information Literacy Skills

2 credits

Surveys basic methods of academic research that enable students to find, evaluate, and cite information efficiently, effectively, and ethically. Utilizing hands-on activities, emphasizes basic methods, purposes, and strategies of academic research that support University Seminar and other classes. Research skills covered include effective use of library databases and other resources, crafting in-text citations, building bibliographies, producing reference lists, and utilizing critical thinking skills to evaluate information sources for appropriateness and credibility.

Repeatable for 4 credits. Graded (A-F) or P/NP.

6. **Prerequisites (*to add each additional prerequisite, start a new line*):**

A. (course prefix, (space) and number) **USEM 101**

B. (course prefix, (space) and number) **HSE 101**

C. (course prefix, (space) and number) **HON 101**

D. (course prefix, (space) and number) **WR 121**

7. **Co-requisites (including labs, if any):**

A. (course prefix, (space) and number) **NONE**

8. **Major/Class restrictions: Please indicate any class or major restrictions: NONE**

9. **Is course repeatable? Yes X No If Yes, list maximum credits: 4**

10. Labs requirements: NONE

11. Fees: List any course fees: NONE

12. Grade Mode: Graded only: Pass/No Pass only: Option: X

13. CIP Code: Six-digit CIP code (check with your Division Director): 25.0101

14. Special qualifications; Is course proposed for (yes/no):

A. University Studies? NO If yes, list Strand(s)

B. Honors? NO

Please note: The course exists to support courses that fulfill the University Studies general education requirements, but USEM 185, LIS 186, UGS 187 cannot be taken in lieu of University Studies general education requirements.

15. Cross-listing: List any cross-listing: N/A

16. Strategic justification for proposed course:

A. **Rationale:** What is the overall strategic rationale for offering this course?

This course supports students enrolled in classes requiring research. It supports: a) student retention by providing assistance to students needing help with information literacy foundational goals; b) student persistence, by offering a mid-term enrollment opportunity to help students maintain full-time status; c) student success in University Seminar and beyond by offering student research support both during USEM and in follow-up Exploration courses.

B. **Alignment:**

1. How does this course align with the unit's mission plan?

The course is aligned with the library's mission to teach students to think critically and use information for their academic, professional, and personal lives--helping them define information needs, then locate, evaluate, and use all available information resources effectively and responsibly. The course also advances our collaboration with the academic community to foster a shared sense of enjoyment and empowerment in the pursuit of lifelong, self-directed learning.

2. How does the course fit into the rest of the unit's curriculum?

We are proposing that LIS 186 be included in a new course workshop cluster: USEM 185 (Reading and Writing Skills), LIS 186 (Research Skills) and UGS 187

(Presentation Skills). This follows USEM/HSE objectives in Foundation Learning Goals A, B, and C.

The curriculum also supports the work of other courses designated to be a part of the University Studies (general education) curriculum.

C. **Enrollment:** What is the new course's estimated enrollment each time it is offered over a three-year period? Year 1 **15-35** ; Year 2 **30-50** ; Year 3 **50+**

D. **Resource evaluation:** What resources – faculty, equipment, lab space, etc. -- will be needed to offer this course and how will those resources be obtained?

1. *Faculty:*

a. Who will teach the course?

Library faculty will teach this course.

b. Evaluate unit's faculty availability and/or needs and the impact on other teaching obligations.

The library has seven faculty librarians with subject expertise. Several faculty librarians already teach library research sessions for University Seminar courses and would be prepared to teach LIS 186.

c. If additional faculty members are needed, how will that need be met?

At this time we do not anticipate needing additional faculty members. However, if demand for the course surpassed the availability of library faculty currently slated to teach this course, then other library faculty could be recruited to teach sections of the course as well.

2. *Facilities:* Cite any additional need for classrooms, equipment or lab space; explain how that need(s) will be met.

The library currently has two electronic classrooms with 30 workstations and an instructor workstation in each room. No additional classroom spaces or equipment is needed.

3. *Other:*

a. Are Hannon Library resources sufficient to meet the needs of this course?
Yes.

b. Are any other resources needed to support this course?
None at this time.

If so, please explain how they will be obtained.

E. External impact:

1. What is the expected effect of this course on existing programs elsewhere in the university?

The scope and content of LIS 186 is not offered elsewhere in existing academic programs. However, this course could be beneficial for other students who would like academic support, particularly second-year students enrolled in Explorations courses that would benefit from information literacy support. This course might be a start to offering a bridge between seminars in the first year and upper division research-oriented courses in the third year. We know there is a gap in the curriculum at that point.

NOTE: Please document your contact with other academic programs which may be affected by this new course and the response you received.

Library faculty met with University Seminar faculty and with the Undergraduate Studies director to coordinate our efforts with other course offerings. We received a positive response.

2. Will any of your prerequisites affect other academic programs?

NONE

NOTE: Please document your contact with other academic programs which may be affected by this new course and the response you received.

17. Syllabus (condensed)

*(Attach an accompanying, condensed syllabus, which should include the following items. Schedules and similar details are **not** required.)*

- A. Course description (same as Catalog description, above)

USEM 186

Academic Workshop: Research Skills

2 credits

Surveys basic methods of academic research that enable students to find, evaluate, and cite information efficiently, effectively, and ethically. Utilizing hands-on activities, emphasizes basic methods, purposes, and strategies of academic research that support University Seminar and other classes. Research skills covered include effective use of library databases and other resources, crafting in-text citations, building bibliographies, producing reference lists, and utilizing critical thinking skills to evaluate information sources for appropriateness and credibility.

Repeatable for 4 credits. Graded (A-F) or P/NP.

B. Learning objectives of the course

The learning objectives of this course align quite explicitly with Foundation Learning Goal C:

Goal C: Information Literacy

Access and use information resources effectively and ethically.

1. *Determine the nature and extent of information needed.*

Proficiencies: Students will be able to

- a. Develop and refine research questions.
- b. Identify key concepts and terms required to locate information.
- c. Examine and assess potential resources specific to a research purpose.

2. *Access information effectively and efficiently.*

Proficiencies: Students will be able to

- a. Differentiate among keywords, subject headings and descriptors.
- b. Differentiate between primary and secondary sources.
- c. Implement a variety of information search strategies.
- d. Use full array of library services to retrieve information.

3. *Evaluate information and resources.*

Proficiencies: Students will be able to

- a. Determine accuracy of information by questioning source of data.
- b. Analyze limitations of information gathering tools or strategies.
- c. Investigate differing viewpoints in the information.

4. *Integrate information ethically and legally.*

Proficiencies: Students will be able to

- a. Retrieve and manipulate information across contexts and in multiple formats.
- b. Understand intellectual property, copyright, and fair use of information.
- c. Cite sources using appropriate documentation style without plagiarism or misrepresentation.

Additionally, this workshop course will focus on *learning how to learn* as one of its outcomes. Students will learn how to access support resources such as librarians, technology assistance, online tutorials, writing center tutors, and more.

C. Required texts

This course may not require texts. The intention is to function in a workshop mode where instructors have specific exercises/lessons and students work with

relevant readings, examples and assignments. However, there are open source texts and other resources that could be drawn from to enhance the curriculum.

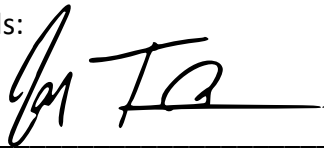
Undergraduate Studies is currently looking into using an Online Pearson *MyWritingLab* support text that would cost students \$30 (likely subscription price) and might be relevant to support this course as well.

D. Course format

This course would be offered either as a 2-credit, 10-week course or as a 2-credit, 5-week course starting at midterm. The course is presented in a hybrid format where students work through exercises and class activities in a library classroom supplemented with online activities via Moodle.

E. Other – any other relevant materials needed to explain the goals and teaching methods of this course.

Approvals:



Signature of Division Director

March 21, 2018

Date

4/29/16