UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES
Curriculum Committee Annual Report 2010 - 2011

Curriculum Committee 2010 – 2011:
Faculty: Dr. Betsy Martens (chair), Dr. Yong-Mi Kim, Dr. Connie Van Fleet, Ms. Stacy Zemke
Other: Ms. Emrys Moreau (Tulsa MLIS, serving as Dr. Martens’s recording GA)
Students: Ms. Gwendolyn Gillson (Norman MLIS)
Ms. Suzanne Rooker (Norman MLIS)

COMMITTEE CHARGE 2010 - 2011

For 2010/2011, the Curriculum Committee was specifically requested to accomplish the following. In addressing these specific charges, it is expected that input will be sought from faculty and students and from external constituencies served by the School and its programs, including employers, alumni, the School’s Advisory Boards and the School’s Alumni Association.

• Review the pre-requisites and co-requisites structure of the curriculum
• Investigate the implications of decoupling the SLIS orientation from LIS/KM 5033
• Investigate possibilities for the delivery of the SLIS orientation online. Work with the Graduate Studies Committee to monitor the directions that the College/University is moving to provide lectures online (including iTunes University) and any additional curricular-related activities that could be provided online by SLIS faculty
• Work with the SLIS Director to purchase the technologies needed to capture and make available online orientation sessions
• Develop and implement an evaluation and feedback mechanism for new courses (from 2009-10 Charge)
• Analyze current data from end-of-program assessments provided by the Graduate Studies Committee for possible curriculum implications. (The 2009-10 Curriculum Committee looked at the response rates and numbers of assessments and felt that this data would not necessarily be representative)
• Work with office to ensure one-page course summaries are submitted.
• Complete revision/review of proposals under development.
  • LIS 5990 Networks and Information Management Systems. Revise (to absorb 5990 Information Security); Rename and give permanent number (slash list)
  • Archives courses: Digital Curation; Archival Description and Arrangement (KW developing in Fall 2010 for online delivery)
  • Information Visualization (to replace Knowledge Representation)
  • LIS 5503 Information Literacy and Instruction
  • LIS 5513 Information Sources and Services
  • LIS 5523 Online Information Retrieval
  • LIS 5561 Information Systems, Sources & Services: Variable Topics
• LIS 5562 Information Systems, Sources and Services for Specific Communities.

• Work with Undergraduate Studies Committee to explore the options and market for a post-baccalaureate certificate in KM
• Explore offering the internship as a 3 hour course group experience
• Continue to explore development of courses, course components, or other learning structures that provide opportunities for hands-on utilization and real world applications of technology for both MSKM and MLIS programs.
• Revise program planning guides to reflect curriculum structural changes.
• Review catalog course descriptions, especially in regard to projected offerings.
• Review the current reference courses for overlap and gaps in coverage.
• Analyze curriculum for content re: funding and development.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY RELATED TO THE CHARGE, 2010 - 2011

• Review the pre-requisites and co-requisites structure of the curriculum

The Curriculum Committee discussed the present curriculum structure over the course of several meetings and felt that no major modifications to the structure are needed at this time.

• Investigate the implications of decoupling the SLIS orientation from LIS/KM 5033
• Investigate possibilities for the delivery of the SLIS orientation online. Work with the Graduate Studies Committee to monitor the directions that the College/University is moving to provide lectures online (including iTunes University) and any additional curricular-related activities that could be provided online by SLIS faculty
• Work with the SLIS Director to purchase the technologies needed to capture and make available online orientation sessions

The Curriculum Committee discussed the utility of decoupling the orientation from the KM/LIS 5033 course, led the discussion about this in several faculty meetings, and helped the Director to plan, develop, and implement a revised orientation program at both Norman and Tulsa programs for the Spring 2011 semester. This revised orientation program, along with accompanying videos on specific topics such as the various end of program programs assessment that are in the process of being made available on the School’s website, will provide the basis for the Fall 2011 and future orientations, as it has been evaluated as well received both by participating faculty and students.

• Work with office to ensure one-page course summaries are submitted.

The Committee continued to monitor the presence of one-page course summaries on the School website, and the number has increased from last year, though still not fully representative of all courses presently offered.

• Develop and implement an evaluation and feedback mechanism for new courses.
The Committee did not have sufficient time to address this charge and recommends that it be carried forward as a charge for the 2011-2012 Curriculum Committee.

- Complete revision/review of proposals under development:
  - LIS 5990 Networks and Information Management Systems. Revise (to absorb 5990 Information Security); Rename and give permanent number (slash list)
  - Archives courses: Digital Curation; Archival Description and Arrangement Information Visualization (to replace Knowledge Representation)
  - LIS 5503 Information Literacy and Instruction
  - LIS 5513 Information Sources and Services
  - LIS 5523 Online Information Retrieval
  - LIS 5561 Information Systems, Sources & Services: Variable Topics
  - LIS 5562 Information Systems, Sources and Services for Specific Communities.

The Curriculum Committee worked with Dr. Kelvin White on the Archival Description and Arrangement course proposal, which was approved by the faculty in the May 2011 faculty meeting. Dr. White’s proposal to rename the existing course LIS 5343 from Archives to Archival Concepts and Traditions as being more descriptive of the actual course content was also brought forward and approved at the May 2011 faculty meeting. Other proposals listed above were not brought before the Committee, as they are either still being worked on or have been tabled in expectation of the impending arrival of a new faculty member in the reference area who is likely to assist with the LIS 55-prefixed courses listed above.

- Work with Undergraduate Studies Committee to explore the options and market for a post-baccalaureate certificate in KM

The Curriculum Committee discussed this issue and determined that there seemed to be no compelling reason to believe that a post-baccalaureate certificate in KM would be in high demand and that substantial effort in marketing such a certificate would be needed. The Committee concluded that such effort might better be focused on other opportunities for the School.

- Explore offering the internship as a 3 hour course group experience

The Curriculum Committee engaged in some preliminary discussions and recommends that this be further explored as part of the 2011-2012 curriculum committee charge, as additional guidance regarding how this might affect faculty load, site supervisor relationships, and student satisfaction needs to be given.

- Continue to explore development of courses, course components, or other learning structures that provide opportunities for hands-on utilization and real world applications of technology for both MSKM and MLIS programs.

The Curriculum Committee recommends that this charge continue as part of the 2011-2012 Curriculum Committee charge. The Committee believes that last year’s addition of the technology-focused KM/LIS 5063 course to the curriculum has ameliorated some of the
immediate need for focused technology skills training but that the issue is one of ongoing interest.

- Revise program planning guides to reflect curriculum structural changes.

The Curriculum Committee suggests that this be done as part of the 2011-2012 curriculum committee charge, given potential changes in the 55-prefixed courses mentioned above.

- Review catalog course descriptions, especially in regard to projected offerings.

The Curriculum Committee did not complete this activity, and recommends that it be continued into the 2011-2012 Committee charge.

- Review the current reference courses for overlap and gaps in coverage.

Pending the arrival of the new faculty member specializing in reference work, the Committee did not address this issue and recommends that it be continued into the 2011-2012 Committee charge.

- Analyze curriculum for content re: funding and development.

The Curriculum Committee found that there is no cohesive curricular content in these areas at present. Dr. Yong-Mi Kim, member of the Committee, has volunteered to develop a funding and development module to be taught in core course KM/LIS 5023, for which she is the usual instructor, in order to begin the process of incorporation into the learning objectives for that course starting in Fall 2011. It is recommended that a review of that module be incorporated into the 2011-2012 Committee charge to determine whether this will sufficiently address the need for funding and development content within the curriculum.

RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2011 - 2012 COMMITTEE,

Carry over from 2010 – 2011
- Revise program planning guides to reflect any unaddressed curriculum structural changes.
- Review the current reference courses for overlap and gaps in coverage.
- Explore offering the internship as a 3 hour course group experience, with more specific guidance from Committee A regarding whether faculty load, site supervisor relationships, and student satisfaction needs to be addressed as part of this
- Complete revision/review of proposals still under development.
  - LIS 5990 Networks and Information Management Systems. Revise (to absorb 5990 Information Security); Rename and give permanent number (slash list)
  - Archives courses: Digital Curation
  - Information Visualization (to replace Knowledge Representation)
Suggested by 2010 – 2011 Committee:

It is recommended that a review of the new module on funding and developing that is currently being worked on by Dr. Kim for incorporation in the KM/LIS 5023 core class be added to the 2011-2012 Committee charge to determine whether this will sufficiently address the need for funding and development content within the curriculum.

It is recommended that next year’s Curriculum Committee explore ways in which the 5990 designation or another course descriptor could be regularly used for “experimental” and “special topics” to be offered by faculty members who wish to do so on a one-time basis without necessarily being presented as permanent additions to the curriculum and having to go through the entire Curriculum Committee and faculty meeting approval process. It was noted that the 5990 designation is currently being used primarily as a “container” descriptor for courses that have not yet been assigned their permanent numbers, and that this creates widespread confusion among advisors and students from semester to semester.