LIS 5333 MULTICULTURAL LIBRARIANSHIP

Catalog Course Description:
Prerequisite: 5033. Awareness of and sensitivity to multicultural heritages; diverse information needs of multietnic populations; information needs assessment and analysis; program and service planning.

Interpretation of Course Description:
The objectives of the course are to provide students with opportunities to acquire knowledge and develop skills necessary to: 1) Understand the library’s role in a multicultural, multiethnic, multilingual society and 2) Design and implement effective information services for diverse groups served by libraries.

Audience: General elective; introductory; MLIS; delivery varies

Expectations:
Prior to the start of class, the student should be able to effectively use D2L, including accessing news and content, participating on discussion boards, and submitting assignments to dropbox folders. Students should be able to use word processing software to produce documents that are professional in appearance (including inserting headers and footers and automatic page numbering) and should be familiar with using the Chicago Manual of Style.

Student Learning Objectives:
Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate an awareness of four major ethnic groups in relation to their history and culture in the United States, and
2. Demonstrate an awareness of their roles in today's society, and
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the changing role of libraries in a pluralistic society, and
4. Demonstrate the professional skills necessary to function effectively in multicultural, multiethnic environments by acquiring a knowledge of the information needs of these populations, and
5. Identify, locate, and evaluate multicultural resources to meet identified information needs of multietnic populations, and
6. Apply sound principles of librarianship to multicultural needs in resources and services.

Topics:
This course will focus on these four ethnic groups: Native Americans, Hispanic Americans (Latinos), African Americans, Asian Americans. The following topics will be covered throughout the course content: 1) Historical Perspective (ethnic minorities in the United States; cultural differences; government policy - legal statutes; influence on literature); 2) Resources (information needs; identification and selection); 3) Services (assessing needs; planning; implementation; evaluation).

Opportunities for Utilizing Relevant Technology:
Use word processing software to produce written assignments; use searching skills with library databases and other online resources for research; use D2L communication technologies (e-mail, discussion board, etc) to support class work.

Course Last Offered: Spring 2010

Document prepared by: Rhonda Harris Taylor, Spring 2010

Disclaimer: This summary represents the course as it has been taught in past semesters and is provided for the convenience of students and advisors. No guarantees are expressed or implied about current and future course offerings.