LSCI - Library Science

LSCI 111  Informatics: The Human Side of Information: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
Informatics as an area of study focusing on the human side of information. In this course, students will learn how and why to place people at the center of the information life cycle. This introductory course provides a foundation for Informatics by surveying the landscape of the field, covering topics that include digital literacies, databases and structured data, information ethics, social media, user experience and service design, and curiosity and mindfulness. Across these areas, students will examine the social impacts of information technologies through readings, small group discussions, and hands-on activities based on real-world scenarios. Informatics is complementary with many majors.

LSCI 121  Digital Information Literacy: Library Research Skills: 1 Credits (1 Lec)
(F, Sp) Library Research Skills is a course focusing on both the concepts and skills needed to use library resources and the Internet to find credible, scholarly information. This is a hands-on introduction to various information resources, tools and search strategies for identifying and retrieving information, and techniques for evaluating information. The course serves as excellent preparation for any other course requiring a term paper or research assignment. This course emphasizes academic information, it is also an excellent course to prepare all students to engage in the “information sea” which we encounter in our daily life.

LSCI 151  Algorithmic Awareness: Media Literacy in the Age of Algorithms: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: LSCI 111 or consent of instructor. This course explores how our technological experiences are increasingly mediated by algorithms - the code and computational processes embedded into our software. Recent work by scholars, such as Dr. Safiya Umoja Noble, have shown how algorithms exhibit implicit biases and reify societal prejudices. Moreover, the technical nature of algorithms and the lack of transparency surrounding them can be a challenge for novices. We routinely engage in systems that predict, recommend, and speculate about our interests based on the digital fingerprint we provide with our link clicks and “likes”, but we all struggle understanding how and why those systems work as.

LSCI 235  Service Design: A Human-Centered Framework for Empathy and Innovation: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: LSCI 111 or consent of instructor. This interactive course explores real-world applications of human-centered design for information services. Students will learn the theory and practice of human-centered service design, and apply this participatory, values-based, creative-thinking framework to address social challenges and solve real problems found in the information environments of different disciplines. Students will learn a variety of design methods for innovating new services through a three-stage design process. Ideally suited for students interested in working in people-focused, community-based, and creative pursuits. Students will engage within and across these disciplines through in-class discussion and hands-on action research and design.

LSCI 290R  Undergraduate Research: 1-6 Credits (1-6 Other)
Directed undergraduate research/creative activity which may culminate in a written work or other creative project. Course will address responsible conduct of research. May be repeated. Repeatable up to 99 credits.

LSCI 291  Special Topics: 3 Credits ()
LSCI 316  Bus Info Research Skills: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: Junior standing or consent of instructor. Focuses on both the concepts and skills needed to conduct research in various areas of business. Provides individuals with an understanding of the research process and the skills by which they can successfully find business related information for research, presentations, class assignments and personal use.

LSCI 321  Metaliteracy: Critical thinking and collaboration in a digital age: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: LSCI 111 or consent of instructor. This course is designed to introduce students to the tenets of metaliteracy and empower them to be reflective and informed producers of information both individually and in collaboration with others. Metaliteracy promotes critical thinking and collaboration in a digital age, providing a comprehensive framework to effectively participate in social media and online communities. This course will help students attain the knowledge, actions, acknowledgement of emotions, and reflective practices critical to metaliterate individuals and to acknowledge the need for lifelong learning, given the constantly and rapidly evolving information landscape.

LSCI 342  Data Curation for a Data-Driven World: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: LSCI 111 or consent of instructor. Data curation is the active and ongoing management of data throughout its lifecycle, in order to help us find, retrieve, understand, and use data, thus enhancing its value in our data-driven world. This course uses hands-on activities to teach strategies for active curation and management of data. We’ll cover a broad range of practical and theoretical issues in the emerging field of data curation, examining ideas related to research lifecycles, workflows, metadata, data preservation, and data ethics.

LSCI 391  Special Topics: 3 Credits ()
LSCI 410  Data Modeling and Databases for Cultural Heritage and Non-Profits: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: LSCI 111 or consent of instructor. This course will introduce the basics of structured data and databases for data management in libraries, archives, museums, and non-profit organizations. You will learn about metadata, data modeling, query languages, building database applications, and large scale data tagging (search engine optimization and social media optimization). By the end of the course, you will understand much about how the real-world metadata and databases that touch our daily lives are designed, built, and maintained.

LSCI 437  Social Media Practices: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: Sophomore standing. This course explores social media practices from the perspectives of community building. Students will explore social media platforms, individual and organizational identities, privacy and ethics, advertising and analytics, and the capacity of social media to build community. By modeling a service learning approach, students will engage in the theories and practices of social media through reflective and practice-based activities, culminating in the creation of a social media strategy for an organization.

LSCI 470  Ethics and Privacy in the Age of Big Data: 3 Credits (3 Lec)
(Sp) This discussion-based course explores the ethics and privacy of information in our contemporary society. We will critique information production and consumption behavior across contexts, ranging from information shared on social media to government surveillance on the web. Students will learn ethical theory and practice from an interdisciplinary perspective by examining the ethical guidelines of various fields through case study analysis. Students will also learn new practical skills related to privacy on the web, including the tools and practices of encrypted communication. At the end of the semester, students will have a firm understanding of information ethics and web privacy.
LSCI 490R Undergraduate Research: 1-6 Credits (1-6 Other)
Directed undergraduate research/creative activity which may culminate in a research paper, journal article, or undergraduate thesis. Course will address responsible conduct of research. May be repeated.
Repeatable up to 12 credits.

LSCI 491 Special Topics: 1-3 Credits (1 Lec)
(1-3 Lec; 12 cr max) On Demand Course prerequisites as determined for each offering. Courses not required in any curriculum for which there is a particular one-time need, or given on a trial basis to determine acceptability and demand before requesting a regular course number.
Repeatable up to 12 credits.

LSCI 492 Independent Study: 1-3 Credits (1 Other)
PREREQUISITE: HSTA 102IH. Internship for archival arrangement and description
Repeatable up to 6 credits.

LSCI 496 Applied Informatics: A Service Learning Practicum: 1 Credits (1 Lec)
PREREQUISITE: LSCI 111 or consent of instructor. Service learning is intended to address human and community issues and needs through active participation of students with the community. In partnership with other university units and local community organizations, students will support organizational activities relevant to information-oriented social challenges within the scope of their major. By applying learning in a professional environment, students will build relationships, engage in self-reflection, and gain real-world professional experience that will strengthen skill acquisition. The course is structured around project updates and working meetings in support of a final project that demonstrates the application of Informatics concepts and skills in a practical, real-world setting.

LSCI 498 Internship: 1-12 Credits (1-12 Other)
PREREQUISITE: Junior standing, consent of instructor, and approval of Department Head. An individual assignment arranged with an agency, business or other organization to provide guided experience in the field
Repeatable up to 12 credits.

LSCI 591 Special Topics: 1-3 Credits (1-3 Lec)
(1-3 Lec; 12 cr max) On Demand Course prerequisites as determined for each offering. Courses not required in any curriculum for which there is a particular one-time need, or given on a trial basis to determine acceptability and demand before requesting a regular course number.
Repeatable up to 12 credits.