

Writing Across the Curriculum

Information Science is defined as the study of how information is stored, retrieved, analyzed, managed, archived and disseminated. Given this, writing is a vital component in most Information Science courses. The students who major in Information Science by graduation should be able to describe information systems, how to use information systems, to evaluate information systems and to write reports describing the evaluation, to critically describe issues in Information Science, and to write instructions for users

II OBJECTIVES

A. Behaviors

Information Science majors should be able to communicate to users of information systems a variety of things:

Written descriptions of observations and interactions with various information systems

Written reports of information systems analysis and design

Written reviews of articles about issues in Information Science

Essays on various topics in Information Science

Reports of research

Written evaluations of software and information systems

Written descriptions of problem solving tasks

B. Conditions

The students taking the writing courses will be provided with examples of the appropriate writing task depending on the course either through their text or written instructions and examples provide by the instructor.

C. Criteria

The lower level courses (ISC110 and ISC220) will primarily have writing experiences in describing and evaluating information systems, descriptions of problem-solving tasks and describing the use of these systems. Each course have 4-6 writing experiences in them

The upper-level courses (ISC329, ISC300, and ISC330) will have writing experiences in reporting the design and analysis of information systems, evaluating software and information systems, review of articles about issues and problems in Information Science, and descriptions of problem-solving tasks. The writing experiences in these courses will consist of short and lengthy written assignments of various forms.

III

A. COURSES

ISC 110 - INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION SCIENCE

ISC 220 - INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL

ISC 300 - ISSUES IN INFORMATION SCIENCE

ISC 329 - DATABASE MANAGEMENT IN BUSINESS

ISC 330 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS

All courses selected to provide the writing experiences for Information Science majors are all required courses in the Information Science major. Each course has an enrollment between 24 and 40 students. All courses are open to any student on campus.

ISC 110 - INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION SCIENCE

The students write a number of short papers analyzing problems in information science.

ISC 220 - INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL

The students write a combination of long and short papers describing problem solving tasks and critically describing issues in textual retrieval systems.

ISC 300 - ISSUES IN INFORMATION SCIENCE. This course has been the course that fulfilled the old General Education upper division expository writing course requirement. Writing is a major component for this course. Students write evaluations of articles about various issues in Information Science; have online discussions of issues such as information policy, privacy, computers and information in the workplace; and a term paper dealing with a topic in information science. Writing is a major component of the grade for this course.

ISC 329 - DATABASE MANAGEMENT IN BUSINESS

The students write short papers evaluating software used for database management and written assignments about various techniques used in database management. They also write a long paper describing the results of the design of a database system.

ISC 330 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The students write several papers analyzing and describing a variety of issues in telecommunications.

IV. Special Circumstances

There are no special Circumstances. The courses are available to all students on campus.

Information Science Program
Director _____

Ette Binick