

FACULTY AGENDA ITEM NO 15-20

Date: February 13, 2015

Submitted by: Sean C. Bird, Associate Dean of University Libraries (ext. 1550)

SUBJECT: Proposal for Online Minor in Information Literacy

Rationale:

The proposed Minor in Information Literacy at Washburn University is an online program open to all baccalaureate students in all majors and degree programs. The program contains both theoretical and experiential components, for a total of 15-credit hours. The primary objective of the program is to teach students Information Literacy and prepare them to take an active role in lifelong learning in the Information Age into which they will graduate and live their professional lives. The proposed IL Minor directly supports the Washburn University student learning outcome Information Literacy and Technology. The minor will be offered starting in the 2015-16 school year.

Students will choose three upper-division courses tailoring their individual Information Literacy Minor paths to complement their major classes and career goals. Elective course requirements shall remain flexible to the addition of new online curriculum and/or departmental offerings across campus (e.g. MM 400 Media Literacy).

The proposed program requirements for the Information Literacy Minor at Washburn are:

- 15 total credit hours (6 required credits) (*courses approved prior to Spring 2011*)

Required courses

CM101 Computer Concepts/Applications	(3 hours)
IL170 Library Research Strategies	(1 hour)
IL171 Internet Research Strategies	(1 hour)
IL172 Advanced Research Strategies	(1 hour)

- Electives (Choose three of the following courses):

Online classes:

IL300 Information Literacy for Scholars	(3 hours)
IL301 Google & Beyond	(3 hours)
IL311 Information Literacy for the Health Professional	(3 hours)
IL321 Information Organization and Access	(3 hours)
IL351 Information, Culture, and People	(3 hours)
IL398 Readings	(3 hours)
IL399 Research	(3 hours)

Financial Viability of an IL Minor:

The primary reason for offering the Information Literacy Minor is to further the success of Washburn University students. Like any program this program needs to be financially viable.

The current expectation is that through combining and realigning courses and reallocating librarian responsibilities in the liaison program and on the reference desk, no additional librarians are required to teach the courses. As IL170 has transitioned to a virtual or discipline-specific class, those sections are taught by librarians with the requisite specializations. Realignment in the collections budget has transitioned responsibility for acquisitions to a buy-on-demand model, permitting librarians to absorb more teaching responsibilities.

Based on conversations with students and colleagues at institutions in other states (no such program currently exists in Kansas), the estimated enrollment in the IL Minor is 8 to 10 students per year.

Request for Action: Approval Information Literacy Minor AAC/FS/Gen Fac/BOR

Approved by:

Dean of University Libraries on date: April 29, 2014

Faculty Library Committee on date: April 30, 2014

Interdisciplinary Studies on date: March 6, 2015

AAC on date:

Faculty Senate on April 6, 2015

Attachments: No