

LIS S201 Foundations of Data Studies

3 credits

Course Description:

This class introduces digital literacies, focusing on data and information literacy in the media, civic engagement, business, informatics, and data science. Students explore the production of data; their roles as data creators and consumers; and the effects of data practices on society. Students apply their acquired skills in real-world situations.

Representative Resources:

- Herzog, D. (2015). *Data literacy: A user's guide*. SAGE Publications: Los Angeles, CA.
- Evergreen, S. (2017). *Effective data visualization: The right chart for the right data*. SAGE Publications: Los Angeles, CA.
- Data Journalism Handbook: <http://datajournalismhandbook.org/1.0/en/index.html>

Student Learning Outcomes: (Revised Bloom's taxonomy level)

Upon completion of this course, students will

1. Recognize that data can have value and play a key role in society by providing opportunities to grow knowledge, to innovate, and to influence. (3)
2. Identify sources of data to evaluate news and other information. (1)
3. Analyze datasets in context to determine the reliability of the information including potential bias in data collection or representation. (4)
4. Understand the ethical guidelines and implications for using, managing, and communicating data. (2)
5. Examine results produced in data analysis using data visualizations that are suitable for their purpose and targeted audience. (4)

Learning assessments:

Class discussion	10%
Assignments	20%
Information ethics paper	20%
Visualization presentation	20%
Final paper	30%