

Fall 2019 syllabus, INF 382L, Science Librarianship

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Office hours by appointment	Day/Time: Thursdays, 6-9pm

Class Objective

The science librarianship course will cover:

- STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine) literature and information resources
- citation practices and metrics
- the landscape of STEMM publishing, including Open Access and Open Science
- public engagement, broader impacts, and methods for STEMM researchers to communicate with laypersons
- professional development, including professional/disciplinary societies for science librarians

This course is recommended for anyone interested in how science gets done, how STEMM research contributions make their way into our lives, and the role that librarians play in that process.

Attendance and Participation

For best results, come to class! You'll get so much more out of this course if you attend all classes. But... life happens. If you will miss class, tell me in advance, via email. Documented illnesses or emergencies, religious holidays and observances, job interviews—these are the easy examples of excused absences. I will consider other situations on a case-by-case basis if you provide documentation.

Congratulations! You made it to class! Now, contribute. Earn up to 42 participation points by taking an active part in our classroom discussions. Come to class ready to discuss any readings or other preparatory content (all of which will be listed on Canvas).

Feel free to bring a laptop to class to take notes, but consider that [actually handwriting your notes may improve content digestion and retention](#).

Readings, Viewings, Listenings...

There is no required text for this course. Recommended material will be listed on Canvas. In addition, students are encouraged to seek out additional relevant content, in all formats, to inform classroom discussions. As much as possible, recommended material will be open access, but some of content will be material paid for and available via the UT Libraries. This kind of material may only allow for one person's use at a time, so please plan accordingly.

Assignments

For most assignments, I will provide a form in Canvas, but there will be assignments that you will have to submit for grading by uploading to Canvas. I **do not** accept late work. Unless otherwise stated, you are expected to work on

each assignment alone. If there's group work, I'll let you know. Cite your sources. Use APA 6th format for citations.

Grading

There is a total of 1000 points in this course—42 class participation points and 958 assignments points. **You will not receive any points for work turned in late.** I don't give letter grades for individual assignments. Your final grade will be determined by how many points you've amassed during the semester.

A = >900 B = 800-899 C = 700-799 D = 600-699 F = <599

In order to maintain student privacy, I will not discuss specific grades via email or phone; you must meet with me in person.

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, [Services for Students with Disabilities](#).

Student Honor Code:

“As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity.”

Tentative Course Schedule

Week 1, August 29

1. Introduction and course objectives—An overview of the class, its assignments and policies, Canvas
2. Science librarian jobs and career preparation
3. The scientific method
4. Reproducibility and retractions

Week 2, September 5

1. How science gets done
 - a. How it's funded/PIVOT/funder requirements
 - b. IRB (Institutional Review Board) and IACUC (Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee)
 - c. OSP (Office of Sponsored Projects)
2. Open science
3. DUE: Post to Canvas a short paper on what you want to learn in this class (50 pts)

Week 3, September 12

1. Introduction to STEMM literature
2. Reading scientific articles

Week 4, September 19

1. Researchers' search for literature as the foundation of their research questions
2. The STEMM reference interview
3. DUE: Post an article review or reflection comment to Canvas (50 pts)

Week 5, September 26

1. STEMM information resources
2. STEMM reference
3. DUE: Post an analysis of a scientific article to Canvas (100 pts)

Week 6, October 3

STEMM collection development

Week 7, October 10

1. STEMM publishing—aggregators, vendors, scientific societies
2. Authorship for librarians: Where to publish? Helping researchers identify journals; Finding appropriate journals by subject, methodology
3. DUE: Reference questions, Part A (179 pts)

Week 8, October 17

1. Citation management, literature management, data management, LaTeX, programming languages
2. Metrics; citation counting in promotion and tenure
3. DUE: Post an article review or reflection comment to Canvas (50 pts)

Week 9, October 24

1. Open access
2. Open educational resources
3. DUE: Reference questions, part B (179 pts)

Week 10, October 31

1. Introduction to science communication and health communication
2. DUE: Post an article review or reflection comment to Canvas (50 pts)

Week 11, November 7

1. Science denialism
2. DUE: Journals comparison and citation analysis (100 pts)

Week 12, November 14

1. Researchers' views of scicomm & public engagement, broader impacts
2. Promotion & Tenure survey
3. DUE: Post a social media review or reflection comment to Canvas (50 pts)

Week 13, November 21

1. Health Communication/Science Communication in curricula
2. Scicomm improv workshop
3. Programming/Opportunities
4. DUE: Post an article review or reflection comment to Canvas (50 pts)

Week 14, November 28

No class meeting

Week 15, December 5

1. Librarians' involvement in STEM discipline societies and organizations
2. Professional development
3. DUE: Post a course review and reflection to Canvas (50 pts)

Week 16, December 12

No class meeting