Research expertise is required in all academic programs and in an educated citizenry. In this class, students explore critical issues about information literacy and learn practical step-by-step techniques for discerning and analyzing information resources, including online databases and World Wide Web sites. The application of these skills to any subject area is demonstrated through a final project requiring the development of a search strategy and the gathering of quality resources on a topic of academic or personal interest. These skills support lifelong learning.


C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Develop the skills to critically examine information and determine its authenticity, credibility, intellectual content, bias, etc.
2. Gain the ability to determine the proper tool needed to locate desired information.
3. Gain the ability to use and understand library reference tools, as well as library classification systems and vocabulary.
4. Know how to appropriately cite materials for research purposes using standard MLA or APA format guides.
5. Know how to use print, electronic, and internet resources in various academic disciplines.
6. Know the "language" of research and develop the skills to articulate successful thesis statements and search phrases.
7. Understand issues related to copyright, intellectual freedom, and the ownership of information.
8. Understand issues related to the access of information across social class, racial, gender and national boundaries.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal EL - General Education/Liberal Studies Elect.

None

G. Special Information

Community Engagement