


Library Courses


| American River College

The American River College Library courses teach vital research skills that enable students to achieve success in their college classes, their careers, and their day-to-day lives. Students will learn research skills to cope with the information rich environment in which they live. In particular, students will learn how to find and critically evaluate information from a wide variety of sources to meet their information needs.

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 Instruction, Learning Resources, & Professional Development

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Library (LIBR)

LIBR 102 Introduction to Library Resources

Units:	1
Hours:	18 hours LEC
Prerequisite:	None.

This course introduces basic library services and resources. It covers the services and functions of an academic library and includes the skills needed to retrieve information from print and electronic resources using the library catalog, online databases, and the Internet. Access to and use of an academic library are required.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- describe the services and resources available in an academic library.
- develop basic search strategies.
- use a variety of research tools to locate, select, and retrieve information in various formats.
- explain the characteristics and uses of various types of information sources.
- explain the importance and basic principles of avoiding plagiarism and citing sources.

LIBR 310 Introduction to Genealogy Research

Units:	1
Hours:	18 hours LEC
Prerequisite:	None.
Transferable:	CSU

General Education:

AA/AS Area III(b)

This course introduces genealogy research methods utilizing sources dating from colonial times to the present. Topics include evaluating and choosing genealogical resources, developing skills to analyze data, and organizing family history information using print forms or a software program.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Evaluate genealogical resources to recognize relevant historical information.
- Choose the appropriate tools and repositories to locate genealogical information.
- Differentiate genealogy terms and resources in order to communicate with others.
- Utilize genealogy charts and forms to formulate a family history.
- Collect information, analyze data, and assemble a family history notebook using library research and organizational skills.

LIBR 318 Library Research and Information Literacy

Units:
Hours:
Prerequisite:
Advisory:
Transferable:
General Education:

1

18 hours LEC

None.

CISC 300 with a grade of "C" or better; Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340

CSU; UC

AA/AS Area III(b)

This course introduces the information competency skills necessary to conduct academic, professional, and personal research. It provides a step-by-step guide to the research process that is applicable to course work, professional work, and life-long learning. It emphasizes effective search strategies, selecting information tools, locating and retrieving information sources, analyzing and critically evaluating information, and using the information in an ethical manner.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- assess the nature and extent of information needed to complete a research task.
- formulate a research strategy.
- locate needed information effectively and efficiently.
- evaluate information sources for information depth and accuracy, credibility, authority, point of view or bias, intended audience, relevance, and physical accessibility.
- describe the economic, legal, social, and ethical issues related to the use of information.

LIBR 320 Introduction to Internet Research

Units:
Hours:
Prerequisite:
Transferable:

1

18 hours LEC

None.

CSU

This course introduces the use of the Internet for academic research. It covers the scope of information available on the Web, presents various Web search tools, and provides strategies and techniques for locating and evaluating appropriate Web resources. This course also explores social and ethical issues concerning the Internet.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- recognize when an academic information need can be fulfilled using Internet resources.
- utilize a variety of search tools and techniques to find appropriate Internet sources for academic use.
- evaluate Internet information and sources.
- recognize and discuss major social and ethical issues concerning the Internet.
- utilize Internet information sources to create an informed response to an information need.

LIBR 325 Internet Research Skills

Units:	3
Hours:	54 hours LEC
Prerequisite:	None.
Advisory:	CISC 300; and eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
Transferable:	CSU; UC
General Education:	AA/AS Area III(b)

This course surveys the content, use, and evaluation of electronic information sources. Emphasis is placed on the effective use of the Internet as a research tool. It covers Internet resources including the deep Web, Web portals, online databases, and library catalogs. Communication services such as email, newsgroups, listservs, blogs, and social networks are also studied as are Web 2.0 and other emerging technologies. Database search strategies, techniques, and critical evaluation of information are covered. Historical and social issues surrounding the Internet are also discussed.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- describe the historical and ongoing development of the Internet with emphasis on technical, social, economic, legal, and ethical issues.
- compare and contrast information retrieval systems, such as search engines, directories, and library databases in terms of content, reliability, ease of use, and consistency.
- identify online databases and other electronic sources to select the most appropriate, relevant information for a research need.
- formulate a research question and construct effective search strategies and techniques that address the nature of the question.
- critically evaluate online information for authority, relevance, scope, timeliness, and accuracy.

LIBR 494 Topics in Library Science

Units:	0.5 - 4
Hours:	9 - 72 hours LEC
Prerequisite:	None.
Transferable:	CSU

This course provides an opportunity to study current topics in library science that are not included in existing courses.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Analyze an information need and determine the extent of information needed
- Access information effectively and efficiently
- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Describe the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information

LIBR 495 Independent Studies in Library

Units:	1 - 3
Hours:	18 - 54 hours LEC
Prerequisite:	None.
Transferable:	CSU

This course provides an opportunity for independent study on issues related to library science.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Analyze an information need and determine the extent of information needed
- Access information effectively and efficiently
- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Describe the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information

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