



James L. & Dorothy H. Dewar
COLLEGE of EDUCATION
& HUMAN SERVICES
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Library and Information Studies
MLIS 7120 Section IA, Government Information Sources
Fall 2021 CRN 85102
3 Credit Hours

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Emily Rogers
Odum Library 2360
Office 229-245-3748
ecrogers@valdosta.edu
Office hours M, T 4-5pm, F 9-10am and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Use of and access to government documents, defining government documents, how they are generated or created, how and who uses them, how and where to find them. The course addresses government documents at the federal, state, and local levels as well as documents of international organizations (UN, EU, etc.) and foreign governments.

TEXTBOOKS / RESOURCE MATERIALS

REQUIRED TEXT

Brown, Christopher C. (2020). *Mastering United States Government Information: Sources and Services*. Libraries Unlimited.

Please familiarize yourself with the VSU policy that prohibits the use of the Interlibrary Loan service for obtaining textbooks at <https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/master-of-library-and-information-science/documents/MLISPolicyonILLRequestsforTextbooks.pdf>.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to meet these Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). The SLOs are aligned with MLS program objectives (<https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/master-of-library-and-information-science/our-program/>):

SLO 1. To enable students to identify, describe, evaluate, and use basic and specialized government information sources in both print and electronic formats. (*ALA Core Competence 2, MLIS PO 1*)

SLO 2. To acquaint students with processes of administering a government documents collection. (*ALA Core Competence 8, MLIS PO 1*).

SLO 3. To articulate issues and trends that affect the access, use, and dissemination of government publications. (*ALA Core Competence 2, MLIS PO 1*).

SLO 4. To develop an understanding and appreciation for the importance of government information in both public and academic libraries. (*ALA Core Competence 2, MLIS PO 1*).

SLO 5. To discuss the major topics, concepts, history, and issues of the Federal Depository Library Program. (*ALA Core Competence 2, MLIS PO 1*).

COURSE ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS

Discussion Boards: 5 discussions at 4 points each	20 points
Assignment 1: Government Agency Report	15 points
Assignment 2: Legislative Report	15 points
Assignment 3: Census and Statistics Questions	15 points
Assignment 4: Final Reference Questions	20 points
Assignment 5: Government Information Presentation	15 points

For further information on all of these assignments, see the Getting Started module in BlazeVIEW.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments should be submitted using the Assignments tool in BlazeVIEW.

LATE SUBMISSIONS, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, & MAKE UP ASSIGNMENTS

For each of the five major assignments, you are allowed a 24-hour grace period for turning in the assignment without penalty. After that grace period, the penalty is a 20% drop in the grade per day.

No grace period and makeups are available for the discussion posts because they are time-sensitive.

MLIS PROGRAM E-PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENT

An E-Portfolio is required for graduation by all students. Details may be found on the department website <https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/master-of-library-and-information-science/>).

COURSE GRADES

Course grades will be awarded as follows:

A: 90%–100%

B: 80%–89%

C: 70%–79%

D: 60%–69%

F: Lower than 60%

No grade below a C will be credited toward a VSU graduate degree, and students must receive a grade of B or better to earn credit in core courses and the required collection development elective.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

As a minimum, you must post on the Introductions discussion board to demonstrate that you have attended class. All course activities will be conducted through BlazeVIEW. Course content is delivered asynchronously according to the course calendar. It is your responsibility to participate in all course activities and submit assignments on time. It is in your best interest to log into the course at least several times each week (daily is best) to check announcements, discussion board posts, and emails.

Attendance in this course is largely asynchronous, though there will be two guest lectures via BlackBoard Collaborate Ultra that I will ask you to try to attend synchronously (both sessions will be recorded).

COMMUNICATION

Communication will be conducted through BlazeVIEW email, postings and replies in the discussion board, and/or BlazeVIEW announcements. Check these areas at least several times per week (daily is recommended) as you are responsible for knowing all information communicated through these channels.

VSU requires that all correspondence between the student and the instructor be conducted through official university channels. To that end, all email correspondence related to this course is to be sent using the email client built into the BlazeVIEW course website. For other correspondence with any VSU faculty members or administrative offices, please use your VSU email account.

PROFESSIONALISM

The Department of Library and Information Studies expects you to pursue your academic endeavors and conduct yourself in a professional and ethical manner. All work submitted in the course must represent your own efforts. Cite sources and include reference information. You should communicate in a professional manner in both speech and writing and maintain a professional attitude, being respectful to others and their viewpoints. Exercise an awareness of the pervasiveness of the online environment and strive to maintain a professional online presence.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct (<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-handbook.php>) and the COEHS Policy Statement of Plagiarism (<https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/deans-office/policy-statement-of-plagiarism.php>). All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics. Consequences for acts of academic dishonesty are detailed in the COEHS Policy Statement of Plagiarism.

For more information, visit Academic Honesty at VSU (<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/academic-honesty-at-vsu.php>).

STUDENT OPINION OF INSTRUCTION SURVEY

At the end of the term, all students will be expected to complete an online Student Opinion of Instruction survey (SOI) that will be available through SmartEvals. Students will receive an email notification through their VSU email address when the SOI is available (generally at least one week before the end of the term). SOI responses are anonymous to instructors/administrators, and they will be able to access results only after they have submitted final grades. Before final grade submission, instructors will not be able to see any responses, but they can see the percentage of students who have or have not completed their SOIs. While instructors will not be able to see student names, an automated system will send a reminder email to those who have yet to complete their SOIs. Students who withdraw or drop a course will also be sent invitations to complete the Dropped Course Survey. Complete information about the SOIs, including how to access the survey, is available on the SOI Procedures webpage (<https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/sois/>).

TITLE IX STATEMENT

Valdosta State University (VSU) is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive work and learning environment free from discrimination and harassment. VSU is dedicated to creating an environment where all campus community members feel valued, respected, and included. Valdosta State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status, in the University's programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations such as Title IX. The individual designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University's Title IX Coordinator: Dr. Sherolyn Hopkins, titleix@valdosta.edu, Student Union, Suite 3106, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia 31698, 229-333-5941. To file a report (not make an inquiry) please visit https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?ValdostaStateUniv&layout_id=7

ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in Farbar Hall. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871. For more information, please visit VSU's Access Office (<https://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/>) or email access@valdosta.edu

Helpful Links

Technical Support (IT helpdesk)	https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/solutions/
Center for eLearning (support for BlazeVIEW)	https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/elearning/
Academic Support Center	https://www.valdosta.edu/asc/
Hope Connect (Mental Health Services)	https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-health/hope-connect-about.php

