

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
MASTER OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE  
MLIS 7160 Science & Technology Information Services  
Syllabus—Fall Semester 2006  
Three Credit Hours

**Instructor:**

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**Catalog Description**

Prerequisites: MLIS 7100 or consent of the instructor. A broad-based survey of the processes and resources used to provide reference services in various science and technology settings. Content represents the fields of biomedical and life sciences, earth and environmental studies, computer science, astronomy, physics, chemistry, and mathematics.

**Course Outcomes**

At the conclusion of the course, the students will be able to:

- Define broad categories of science and technology (sci-tech) subjects
- Identify publication formats unique or integral to sci-tech information dissemination
- Recognize the information-seeking processes that are unique to scientists
- Relate the scientific publishing cycle model to sci-tech knowledge management
- Identify materials essential to fulfilling general sci-tech ready reference requests
- Utilize both traditional and alternative resources to locate information for research queries associated with particular sci-tech fields
- Locate professional sources that support the development of sci-tech collections
- Prepare a policy statement relevant to sci-tech information sources management

**Textbook**

Mount, Ellis and Beatrice Kovacs. *Using Science and Technology Information Resources*. Oryx Press, 1991. ISBN: 0897745930

(This text is still available from Greenwood Publishing Group (<http://www.greenwood.com/>) which bought out Oryx some years ago. Price is listed at \$30.95. You can also get it through online used booksellers such as Addall.com or Alibris.com. I do not recommend trying to get it from Amazon.com – older title delivery from Amazon tends to be slow and sometimes extra charges are tacked on.)

**Attendance**

This is a Web-delivered course, with no required face-to-face meetings and no required synchronous online times.

## Requirements

As a student in this class, you are expected to: (1) do all reading assignments and participate in the electronic discussions thereof; (2) examine the reference, journal, and database materials assigned and complete the accompanying exercises; (3) submit all projects on time and according to the format designated by the instructor; and (4) schedule time for in-person visits to a nearby library in order to fulfill the information sources examination assignment.

### Graded Assignments and Projects:

Assignment #1: Science Information Sources Examination Paper	20%
Assignment #2: Science Journal Review Paper	10%
Assignment #3: Sci-Tech-Math Database Exercise	15%
Assignment #4: Collection Management Paper	15%
Project #1: Resource Guide on a Sci-Tech-Math Specialized Topic	25%
Project #2: Self-Development Project	15%

## Grading

On individual course requirements, the instructor may assign plus and minus grades using this numerical scale:

A = 4.0   A minus = 3.7   B plus = 3.5   B = 3.0   B minus = 2.7   C plus = 2.5   C = 2.0

Your final grade will be one of these letter grades:

- A   Exceptionally exceeds minimum standards
- B   Exceeds minimum standards
- C   Meets minimum standards
- D   Barely meets minimum standards
- F   Fails to meet minimum standards

## Technical Requirements

All class materials will be placed on a password-protected Web site using the Vista/WebCT course management program. If you are a new Vista user, go to the Vista help pages at <http://www.valdosta.edu/vista/>. \* On the right margin are "Self Help" links. View the "Getting Started" tutorial first. Then return to the Vista page and login using your BlazeNet email ID and password.

To meet all class requirements, you should also be prepared to: (1) check the Vista/WebCT course homepage several times a week, sometimes daily, if a course discussion is in progress; (2) locate additional course readings using the GALILEO databases and download or print these out (this requires the Adobe Acrobat Reader on your computer); and (3) keep electronic backup copies of each assignment and project you submit.

All assignments must be submitted using a program compatible with VSU supported products. MS Word is the preferred document format. The OpenSource project makes available a free set of programs called the OpenOffice suite which includes a word processing program compatible with MS Word. You can download the entire OpenOffice Suite from the Web site <<http://www.openoffice.org/>>. WordPerfect 12 allows you to save your documents as Word documents.

If you are using a lower version of WordPerfect or the OpenOffice word processor, save your documents in Rich Text Format (rtf). Pasting your text into an e-mail is not an acceptable solution and will not be accepted by Dr. Ondrusek.

\* These URL's are scheduled to change during the fall semester 2006.

**Student Agreement**

Enrollment in this class signifies that the student has agreed to abide by and adhere to the policies and regulations specified above. It is understood that the instructor may adapt or change this syllabus and the assignments contained within it according to circumstances that may arise during the course of the semester.