

UC 170 Section 001 Digital Research in the Natural Sciences: Critical Concepts and Strategies – University of Michigan

Course Calendar Winter 2008

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment due	
			#	Title
1	January 3	Getting started Information in the academic world Ctools and MFile		
2	January 10	The search process Types of literature	#1 #2	I-Skills Resume Development Goals
3	January 17	Mirlyn University of Michigan Library System Opening Refworks accounts	#3	Searchpath Tutorial –Modules 1-4 + Quizzes
4	January 24	Refworks Mirlyn	#4	Refworks readings RefWorks output: books
5	January 31	Proquest Gale General OneFile	#5	Mirlyn to RefWorks output QUIZ #1
6	February 7	Collecting bibliographic data Reference management software Mid-term course feedback	#6	Index & abstract search results
7	February 14	<i>Scientific American</i> : contemporary and historic	#7	Database to RefWorks output: journal articles
8	February 21	<i>Scientific American</i> : oral reports Reading a scientific journal: <i>Science</i>	#8	<i>Scientific American</i>
9	February 28	Winter break		No class
10	March 6	Collecting text; developing an original voice. <i>Guest Lecturer Mr. Renoir Gaither</i>	#9	<i>Science</i>
11	March 13	Reading <i>Science</i> ; oral reports ISI Web of Science	#10	Summarizing, paraphrasing
12	March 20	Complete Reading <i>Science</i> ; oral reports Web of Science searching	#11	Web of Science searching QUIZ #2
13	March 27	Comparing sources: ProQuest, Web of Science, Google, Google Scholar	#12	Comparing sources
14	April 3	Specialized sources in the natural sciences Citing online sources Looking forward	#13	I-Skills Resume - Redux
15	April 10	Clarifying Electronic Sources in Mirlyn; Final course evaluation		QUIZ #3

UC 170 Section 001
Digital Research in the Natural Sciences:
Critical Concepts and Strategies

Winter 2008
Syllabus

Instructor

Patricia B. Yocum, A.M., A.M.L.S.

Librarian

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COURSE WEBSITE <http://ctools.umich.edu>

Meeting Time/Place

Class: Thursday 3:00-4:00 p.m. 120 WH

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m. 3026E Shapiro Science Library or by appointment

Course Description

The goal of this 1-credit, lecture/lab course is to lay a foundation for academic research in the emerging digital environment. Interactive learning emphasizes hands-on use of technology and especially of authoritative sources in the “Deep Web”. Learning modes also include discussion, case studies, online searching, readings, and lectures. Student work is done solo as well as collaboratively and includes exercises, written reports, and development of a technology skills resume. The course explores new concepts, techniques and discovery tools, and addresses academic integrity, source citations and use, search strategies, and evaluation of digital sources.

Section 001 is directed toward students taking course(s) in the NATURAL SCIENCES.

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