

***HLTH 4380 Special Topics in Health Care Studies:  
Information Literacy and Information Resources for Health Care***

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**Instructor:** Stephanie Isham, M.L.S.  
**Email Address:** [sisham@utdallas.edu](mailto:sisham@utdallas.edu)  
**Office Location:** MC 3.343A

**Office Phone:** 972-883-2629  
**Office Hours:** By appointment

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**Academic Schedule – Spring Semester 2017**

Classes Begin: Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

Census Day: Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Last Day of Classes: Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

University Closings: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 16, 2017; Spring Break, Monday, March 13, 2017 - Saturday, March 18, 2017.

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**Course Pre-requisites:** Upper division standing.

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**Comet Creed**

*This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:*

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

**Course Description**

This course introduces the concept of Information Literacy and the information literacy process. Additionally, this course will identify basic health care information sources for both academic work as well as for professional use. After completing this course, students will understand the importance of Information Literacy and know how to effectively evaluate information. Students will be able to identify and use information sources for health care in their academic and professional careers.

This course is taught completely online: there are no required on-campus meetings. Weekly lessons are accessible throughout the semester as defined by the UTD calendar (<http://www.utdallas.edu>). Although the lessons are virtually available 24/7, such flexibility demands self-discipline and a high level of independent motivation. Students should budget appropriate time each week for this course including reviewing the lessons and assignments, reading articles, and completing course assignments and projects.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Students will learn to formulate a strategy for library research on healthcare topics and understand how information can be retrieved from a variety of sources. Students will learn about

basic information resources related to health care. Students will be able to match their information needs to the appropriate resource. The student will evaluate potential information sources for credibility and assemble appropriate documentation of their research.

## **Required Materials**

Readings for HLTH 4380 for will be available through eLearning or on Electronic Course Reserves <https://www.utdallas.edu/library/services/reserves/index.html> (The instructor will supply the password for access on the course's eLearning page.)

## **Technical Requirements**

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html#techreqs> on the Getting Started with eLearning webpage <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html>.

## **Course Access and Navigation**

The course can be accessed using the UT Dallas NetID account at: <https://elearning.utdallas.edu>. Please see the course access and navigation <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html#courseaccessandnav> section of the site for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning Tutorials <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/eLearningTutorialsStudents.html>.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The eLearning Support Center <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp> services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

## **Communication**

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the eLearning Tutorials webpage <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/eLearningTutorialsStudents.html> for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

## **Distance Learning Student Resources**

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising,

The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the eLearning Current Students page <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/cstudents.htm> for details.

## **Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties**

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online eLearning Help Desk. If the student is unable to submit an assignment via eLearning, email a copy of the submission to the instructor, [sisham@utdallas.edu](mailto:sisham@utdallas.edu). Emailed submissions received before the deadline will be graded as normal. <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>. The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

## **Grading Policies**

Final Grades will be considered according to the total number of points accumulated.

Total possible Points = 300

291-300	A+	231-239	C+	<180	F
279-290	A	219-230	C		
270-278	A-	210-218	C-		
261-269	B+	201-209	D+		
249-260	B	189-200	D		
240-248	B-	180-189	D-		

## **Course & Instructor Policies**

*All assignments are due as indicated on the last page of this syllabus. Late work will NOT be accepted.*

## **University Policies**

Information about University Policies pertaining to this course can be found at the link below.  
<http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>

### Assignments and Due Dates:

UNIT	Topic	Assignments/Discussions/Quizzes	Due
1	Introduction to the UTD Library	Library Website/Library Building Quiz (10 pts)	<b>1/15</b>
2	Citing Research: Why it is important, introduction to APA	Plagiarism & APA Quiz (15 pts)	<b>1/22</b>
3	What is Information Literacy? What is Health Literacy?	Information Literacy & Health Literacy Quiz (10 pts) Information Literacy & Professionalism Response Essay (10 pts)	<b>1/29</b>
4	Keywords and Search Strategies	Search Strategies Response Essay (20 pts)	<b>2/5</b>
5	The UTD Library Catalog & Union Catalogs	Library Catalog/Union Catalog Worksheet (15 pts)	<b>2/12</b>
6	Health Care Databases: Introduction and PubMed	PubMed Worksheet (10 pts)	<b>2/19</b>
7	Health Care Databases (Part 2): PsycInfo, CINAHL and others	Health Care Databases (CINAHL & PsycInfo) Worksheet (10 pts) Health Care Databases Response Essay. (20 pts)	<b>2/26</b>
8	Evaluating Sources	Baloney Detection Response Essay. (20 pts)	<b>3/5</b>
9	Reference Sources	Reference Sources Worksheet (10 pts)	<b>3/12</b>
10	Statistical Sources	Statistical Sources Worksheet (10 pts)	<b>3/26</b>
11	Federal & State Government Websites: Both General and Health Care Specific	Government Websites Worksheet (10 pts)	<b>4/2</b>
12	Consumer Health Information Resources	Consumer Health Information Source vs. Academic Source (15 pts)	<b>4/9</b>
		Consumer Health Information Selection Exercise (15 pts)	<b>4/16</b>
13	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>Final Exam (100 pts)</b>	<b>5/8</b>

*The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*