

**EDISON COLLEGE**  
**DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Instructors:**

Professor Frank Dowd (Section 171)  
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**I. COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE, CATALOG DESCRIPTIONS, CREDIT HOURS.**

**LIS 2004 Internet for College Research 1 Credit**

This course is designed to help students become familiar with the Internet and information resources of value in college research. Through the use of finding tools and informational resources on the Internet, students will develop increased skills in identifying, using and evaluating electronic information resources. Classroom activities and practical experience in using the Internet will provide students basic research skills necessary for information literacy in today's world.

**II. PREREQUISITES FOR THE COURSE. None**

**III. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:**

This course introduces students to the concept of using the Internet as an information retrieval tool, and teaches strategies for locating and analyzing information. The course is designed to help students develop the basic information literacy skills necessary for college course work, general research, and for lifelong learning in an information-centered society.

**Topics to be covered include:**

- Creating, editing, sending, receiving and printing electronic mail, including "netiquette."
- Accessing and navigation of the Internet including specific databases and the World Wide Web.
- Organization of effective search strategies, including identification of terms to use, use of Boolean operators, phrase searching, and other search strategies.
- Evaluating and citing electronic information.
- Use of specific Edison College electronic resources.

**IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT:**

**A. General Education Competencies**

*General education courses must meet all the following outcomes. All other courses will meet one or more of these outcomes.*

**At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following competencies:**

Critical Thinking: To demonstrate skills necessary for analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Students will fulfill this competency by analyzing, summarizing and interpreting a variety of

online reading materials. They will also evaluate the differences between a variety of library databases, commercial and scholarly Internet web sites.

*Technology/Information Management:* To demonstrate the skills and use the technology necessary to collect, verify, document, and organize information from a variety of sources. Students will fulfill this competency by accessing and retrieving information through a variety of electronic databases and Internet sites. They will use a word processing program to prepare and submit an annotated research bibliography using the MLA documentation style.

**B. Additional Course Competencies:**

**At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following additional competencies:**

Learning Outcomes	Assessments
Students will demonstrate an understanding of the types of information resources available via the Internet.	Students will be graded through tests, a final exam and the course research project.
Students will identify research topics and devise effective search strategies to utilize appropriate Internet resources and Internet-accessible library databases in the research process.	Students will identify a research topic and locate appropriate sources of information using library databases and Internet sites. They will be graded on an annotated bibliography summarizing their research sources, which must be submitted in MLA format.
Students will demonstrate competence in using keyword and Boolean search techniques as appropriate for Internet search tools.	Students will be given tests and graded on their use of keyword and Boolean search techniques.
Students will use Internet communication tools, web search engines, meta-search engines, specialized search engines, and subject directories to locate and access relevant information resources.	Students will be graded on these abilities through tests and the annotated course research project.
Students will evaluate the credibility, quality, and accuracy of Internet resources for specific information needs.	Students will be graded on their ability to analyze web sites and library databases for credibility, quality and accuracy of information.
Students will demonstrate an understanding of several social, legal and ethical issues, including netiquette, plagiarism and copyright issues.	Students will be graded on their understanding of these issues through tests.
Students will document Internet resources using MLA or APA style guides.	Students will be graded on their ability to use these style guides through tests and the Course research project.

## **V. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STUDENTS:**

The course consists of seven lessons, a course project, and final examination. Each lesson requires readings from the course web site and the completion of a related test. Each test is weighted by its relevance to the performance objectives for the course.

The course project consists of an annotated list of 5 sources of information on a single topic of interest retrieved from the Internet. The list of citations must be presented in MLA citation format. Annotations must contain an evaluation of the Internet resource. Resources may include world wide web pages, Internet journal or newspaper articles, or discussion group postings.

Students taking the course will be expected to take responsibility for completing all assignments on schedule. You must have a full service Internet account, including e-mail, or have Internet access from work or another source which does not limit your time online. Computers are available in the Library. You must have a basic familiarity with your computer's operating system and web browser program. All work will be submitted to your instructor via Web CT within the course site. You must be willing to work independently and be self motivated. You must have a valid Edison library card in order to access research databases studied in this course.

## **VI. ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

- You may work ahead but all tests have deadlines, after which they are not available. Several lessons, particularly lessons 3 and 6, take some time to complete, as does the project.
- All work must be submitted to your instructor by the due dates indicated at the end of each assignment. Prompt submittal of assignments constitutes attendance in the course. The instructor is available to meet with students to review each lesson by appointment. The course schedule provides due dates for all course materials.
- The course may be completed as quickly as the student wishes. If you feel confident in completing the material ahead of schedule please do so!

## **VII. GRADING POLICY:**

The final grade is based upon the satisfactory completion of the following activities:

Tests	70%	70 points
Project	20%	20 points
Final examination	10%	10 points
Total	100%	100 points

### **Grading Scale**

A = 90 – 100  
B = 80 – 89  
C = 70 – 79  
D = 60 – 69  
F = 59 and below

## **VIII. TEXTBOOK REQUIREMENTS:**

There is no required textbook for this course. Each lesson contains the required reading material. Each lesson includes links to supplemental reading and source material. The Reading List provides a bibliography of resources used in creating the course reading material. The Glossary provides a useful list of relevant terms and definitions.

**IX. RESERVE MATERIALS FOR THE CLASS:**

There are no reserve materials for this class.

**X. CLASS SCHEDULE:**

The following due dates are to be strictly observed:

Test 1 is due Tuesday, September 4, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

Test 2 is due Monday, September 17, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

Test 3 is due Monday, October 1, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

Test 4 is due Monday, October 15, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

Test 5 and your project topic are due by Monday, October 29, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

You must have your project topic approved by your instructor before you begin working on your project.

Test 6 is due Monday, November 12, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

Test 7 is due Tuesday, November 27, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

The course project is due Monday, December 3, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

The final exam is due Monday, December 10, 2007, by 9:00 AM.

All tests and the course project must be submitted by the date due. Any exception must be cleared with the instructor in advance. Failure to abide by the due date may result in a zero grade for that test or the project.

**XII. OTHER INFORMATION:**

**Programs for Students with Disabilities**

Edison College offers students with documented disabilities programs to equalize access to the educational process. Please contact the Coordinator for Students with Disabilities at (239) 489-9427 for more information. The Office of Students with Disabilities is located in Taeni Hall, Room 116A

**Religious Observance**

Per Section 1006.53, Florida Statutes, the Edison College policy on observance of religious holy days provides that students shall, upon notifying their instructor, be excused from class to observe religious holy days of their faith. The student will be held responsible for any material covered during the excused absence, but will be permitted a reasonable amount of time to complete any work missed.

Students who feel this policy has been improperly applied may have their grievance addressed through the general academic appeals process.