Week 1 - Share your introduction by Jan 10 9pm

Introduction to technology, information, and society

- Review all important course documents and assignment instructions, and become familiar with our eClass site!
- Readings this week:
- Class activities this week:
  - Course introduction: Watch the posted video
  - Share and Discuss: Introductions: Post a short introduction of yourself to your classmates and to me. Check the Discussion Topics document for more details this week and on your Discussions and Share and Discuss activities throughout the term.

UNIT 1: Human Perspectives

Week 2 - Discussion 1 initial post due Jan 15, participate through Jan 17 9pm

Human-centred design and usability

- Readings this week:
- Class activities this week:
  - Discussion 1: The Importance of Human Users: Why should we consider humans when we design, implement, adopt, and use LIS technologies? Which design and usability factors do you think are most significant to this consideration? What might we miss if we do not consider these factors?
**Week 3 - Share and Discuss Jan 21-24 9pm**

**Human-computer interaction (HCI) and cognition**

- **Readings this week:**

- **Class activities this week:**
  - Share and Discuss: Theories of Human Cognition: Consider a particular model, theory, or approach to human cognition and mental processes that you read about this week or know of from your prior experiences and knowledge. Briefly explain your understanding of this model, theory, or approach and how you could apply it when designing, implementing, adopting, or using LIS technologies. (Feel free to pick a particular technology as an example.) Where does this model, theory, or approach provide us with significant insight? Where might it (or your understanding of it) not be as useful or appropriate?

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**Week 4 - Discussion 2 initial post due Jan 28, participate through Jan 30 9pm**

**Human-centred computing (HCC)**

- **Readings this week:**

- **Class activities this week:**
  - Discussion 2: Human-Centred Perspectives: Consider the factors and elements raised by the human-centred computing perspective. How do they differ from a focus on usability or cognition? How is this perspective similar to other human perspectives? In your discussion, look forward to Report #1 and how these might shape the design, implementation, adoption, and/or use of LIS technologies. What common lessons might we draw, no matter the human perspective or LIS technology?
UNIT 2: Social Perspectives

Week 5 - Share and Discuss Feb 4-7 9pm

Social informatics

- Reports on human perspectives on LIS technology due Feb 8 9pm
- Readings this week:
- Class activities this week:
  - Share and Discuss: Many Humans, Many Technologies: How does the perspective offered by social informatics differ from that of the human perspectives we covered earlier this term? What factors are novel? How would our view of the world and of humans be different under a social informatics perspective? How might our view of LIS technologies be different?

Week 6 - Discussion 3 initial posts due Feb 12, participate through Feb 14 9pm

Sociotechnical infrastructure

- Readings this week:
- Class activities this week:
  - Discussion 3: Social, Technical, Both? A sociotechnical viewpoint looks to combine social and technical views on technology in harmony. However, the
relative emphasis placed on each may be somewhat different for different
research studies, technology projects, and LIS and IT professionals, or when we
apply other social perspectives on technology. What advantages and limitations
are there to an emphasis on the social or the technical side of the divide? Be
sure to address both sides. How can we best balance the two when considering
the design, implementation, adoption, and use of LIS technologies?

**Week 7** - **NO CLASS** - Winter Term Reading Week

**Week 8** - Discussion 4 initial posts due Feb 26, participate through Feb 28 9pm

**Organizational and community informatics**
- Readings this week:
    of organizations. *Information Systems Research, 2*(2), 143–169. [https://doi.org/10.1287/isre.2.2.143](https://doi.org/10.1287/isre.2.2.143)
    Rethinking theory in community informatics. *The Journal of Community
    communication forums as Socio-Technical Interaction Networks. *Journal of the
    American Society for Information Science and Technology, 54*(1), 47-67.
    [https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.10154](https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.10154)
- Class activities this week:
  - Discussion 4: Social and Informational Ties: *Most social perspectives consider
    the concept of the “tie” between individuals, communities, and/or resources;
    however, organizational and community informatics place particular emphasis on
    it and the concept of the “network” that results. Considering libraries and
    information organizations and the communities that use them, why are the ties
    and networks important when considering the design, implementation, adoption,
    and use of LIS technologies? What does such a focus add to our understanding
    of LIS and technology? What does it perhaps take away that other perspectives
    consider?*
  - Choose group members for the LIS Technology Case Study group project by Mar
    1 9pm. Use the [sign-up sheet](#) to list your names and chosen technology.
UNIT 3: Critical Perspectives

Week 9 - Share and Discuss Mar 4-7 9pm
Policy and governance

- Reports on social perspectives on LIS technology due Mar 8 9pm
- Readings this week:
- Class activities this week:
  - Share and Discuss: Intellectual Freedom, Technology, and Governance: Intellectual freedom is a core value of LIS, and most libraries and information organizations naturally function within a governance structure of some kind. Consider these and how they may influence views we can take on LIS technologies. Does a critical perspective informed by intellectual freedom and governance require us to consider factors in the design, implementation, adoption, and use of LIS technologies that human or social perspectives might miss? If so, what are these factors and why are they important? Or if not, how are these factors already included in previously covered perspectives?

Week 10 - Discussion 5 initial posts due Mar 12, participate through Mar 14 9pm
Social justice

- Readings this week:
- Class activities this week:
  - Discussion 5: Technology for Social Justice: Can technology be used for both good and ill? How does a critical perspective guided by social justice shape our roles, as librarians and information professionals, with regards to LIS technologies? What specific factors do you feel are most important when critically considering the design, implementation, adoption, and use of technology for social justice and social good? Do other perspectives consider these?

**Week 11 - Discussion 6 initial posts due Mar 19, participate through Mar 21 9pm**

**Gender and identity**

- Readings this week:
  - One or both of the following:

- Class activities this week:
  - Discussion 6: “You’re Unique, Just Like Everyone Else”: The aphorism in the title is commonly but possibly mis-attributed to Margaret Mead, and speaks to our existence as unique individuals but also our common human, social, and critical condition and contexts. This week’s readings focus on our identities, how we see ourselves, and how we are seen as critical factors in the design, implementation, adoption, and use of technology. Why are these important factors for us to consider? What do our common uniquenesses and differences mean for our critical consideration of LIS technologies? For the importance of others’ perspectives, views, and values in the context of LIS technologies?
UNIT 4: Emerging Perspectives

Week 12 - Share and Discuss Mar 25-28 9pm

Archives, museums, repositories

- Reports on critical perspectives on LIS technology due Mar 29 9pm
- Readings this week:
- Class activities this week:
  - Share and Discuss: Technology Across Information Organizations: Libraries, archives, museums, and other information organizations all adopt and use what we have broadly considered “LIS technologies” this term. However, given the differences in these organizations their adoption and use may be different. What are some of the differences one must consider when analyzing the adoption and use of technology in different types of information organizations? What are some of the similarities and common lessons you see emerging? Would a particular perspective be appropriate across all information organizations, or only to some? Why or why not?

Week 13 - Share and Discuss Apr 1-4 9pm

Online communities and culture

- LIS Technology Case Studies due Apr 5 9pm
- Readings this week:

- **Class activities this week:**
  - Share and Discuss: Technologies, Communities, and Boundaries: *In both offline and online culture, the communities we are part of and the boundaries between them can be key factors in how technology is designed, implemented, adopted, and used. Consider two different and separate communities you feel you are part of. How does the role played by technology differ between these? How is it similar? If these two communities came into contact, how might technology be adopted or used, such as by yourself, to help them get along and bridge their boundaries? How might technology design or use cause or resolve conflicts in their practices and values?*

**Week 14 - Case Study Discussions Apr 7-10 9pm**

*Group case study discussions*

- No readings this week!
- **Class activities this week:**
  - Groups should lead discussions of their own case study and look at the other two they have been assigned to. Note that this week, discussions begin on Sunday, April 7 and run through Wednesday April 10 (the official last day of classes).
  - Final wrap-up