COURSE DESCRIPTION

HIST 4900 - Topics in History (3 cr.) - Early exploring and colonizing activities, colonial customs and institutions, colonial wars, friction with England, war for independence, problems of the new republic, the Constitutional Convention, War of 1812, new nationalism, Jacksonian democracy, expansionism and Manifest Destiny; and sectional controversy and Civil War.

SCENARIO

For this senior seminar students are to write a 15-20 page paper utilizing both primary and secondary sources from the databases, library catalog and quality internet sites, of which some have been provided as resources and examples.

The librarian uses a 2 page research guide as the outline for the class. Covered in detail are available library resources for primary sources through subscription electronic resources, as well as available via the internet sources and books. Also reviewed in the session are search strategies and examples and citing sources in Chicago style.

DRAFT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR HIST 4900 - Topics in History

By identifying at least two concepts from a topic for their search strategy [d] students [a] will demonstrate that they know how to select concepts from a topic to focus their searches in the American Antiquarian Society (AAS) Historical Periodicals Collection database [b] following demonstration in the instruction session [c].

Students [a] will select one primary source [d] in order to demonstrate that they are able to search the specialized primary resource collection choosing at least one of the available search protocols in conjunction with selecting an appropriate time frame based on the course focus [b] following a demonstration of SlaveVoyages database in the instruction session [c].

Following a review in the instruction session [c], students [a] will select three journal articles or essays that are available either electronically or locally [d] to demonstrate their ability to locate items identified through JSTOR or other library subject-specific databases [b].

Through correctly citing three journal articles from JSTOR or other library subject-specific databases [d], students [a] will demonstrate using the appropriate style format for journal articles from a database in Chicago Style [b] following participation in an instruction session [c].

After a review of searching the library catalog [c], using the More Like This tool [b], students [a] will locate one book that matches at least one of the subject headings of a book (following their search in JSTOR of using at least two concepts identified from their initial topic) [d].

POSSIBLE ASSESSMENTS

- Bibliography of at least 3 source which is to be turned into professor (and librarian, during or after class)
- Annotated bibliography
- Research Journal or reflection
- One minute survey