

## **Users and Information Activities in Digital Environments** **Användare och informationspraktiker i digitala miljöer**

7.5 credits

7.5 högskolepoäng

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**Ladok Code:** 32LAI1

**Version:** 3.1

**Established by:** Committee for Education in Librarianship, Information, and IT 2015-11-20

**Valid from:** Spring 2016

**Education Cycle:** Second cycle

**Main Field of Study (Progressive Specialisation):** Library and Information Science (A1N)

**Disciplinary Domain:** other

**Prerequisites:** Degree of Bachelor

**Subject Area:** Library and Information Science

**Grading Scale:** Seven-degree grading scale (A-F)

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### **Content**

The course places digital information services in a societal and institutional context and provides an overview of different kinds of digital libraries and services. The course takes as its starting point a user perspective on development and implementation as well as evaluation of digital resources. A constant focus is thus on the conditions of the users and on information practices, and on the role that interaction between digital libraries and services plays for the users communication and learning. In the context of the course the term user relates both to so called capable users who seeks, create, organise and use information in connection to web based tools, and to potential users within the target groups for digital services. The course content can be described as three mutually related focus areas:

- The position of digital resources in people's communication and learning
- Relations between digital resources and various information practices
- Evaluation of digital services with focus on digital libraries

### **Learning Outcomes**

#### **Forms of Teaching**

Tuition is conducted through written assignments, seminars and lectures.

The language of instruction is English.

#### **Forms of Examination**

Seminars can be replaced by other forms of examination specified in the course syllabus if a student has failed to fulfil the seminar requirements or has been absent.

In the event of changes in course plans students who wish to complete courses can be examined on the basis of the most recent version of the course plan. For courses that are no longer running, students who wish to complete such courses can read all or part of an equivalent course. (This is in accordance with the Director's decision, Dnr 516-13, 11th June, 2013)

Student rights and obligations at examination are in accordance with guidelines and rules for the University of Borås.

#### **Literature and Other Teaching Materials**

Bawden, D. & Robinson, L. (eds.) (2012). Introduction to information science. London: Facet Publishing. Chapter 4, 9 and 13 (= 65 p.)

Chowdhury, G. & Foo, S. (eds.) (2012). Digital libraries and information access: Research perspectives. London: Facet Publishing. (= 235 p.) [Accessible as e-book through the library]

Dobрева, M., O'Dwyer, A. & Feliciati, P. (eds.) (2012). User studies for digital library development. London: Facet Publishing. (= 298 p.)

Haider, J. (2014). How library and information science can save the world and why to care. LIBREAS. Library Ideas, 25, p. 80-91 (= 11 p.)

Nathan, L. (2012). Sustainable information practice: An ethnographic investigation. Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology. 63(11), p. 2254-2268. (= 14 p.)

Comment to the above list: in addition to the listed literature, the student is also expected to search for and select relevant literature. approx. 300 pages. In order to make it possible for each student to individually enter deeply into the respective fields of libraries, museums, and archives, lists with recommended readings will be presented in connection to the separate modules of the course.

### **Student Influence and Evaluation**

The course is evaluated in accordance with the current guidelines for course evaluations at the University of Borås, where students' views should be sought. The course evaluation report will be published and disseminated to participating and prospective students in accordance with the current guidelines, and forms the basis for future development of courses and training programs. The course coordinator is responsible for that the evaluation is performed according to current guidelines.

### **Miscellaneous**

The course is part of the Masters programme: Library and Information Science, Digital Library and Information Services