Graduate courses in Research Data Management and Practice

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Winter term, 2016, Thursdays, 9am-12:20pm, GSEIS Bldg, room 121

Data are both process and products of the research enterprise. Funding agencies are requiring data management plans as part of grant proposals, journals are requiring the release of data to reviewers and readers alike, and libraries and archives are adding data to their collections. Researchers are acquiring skills in data handling as part of graduate programs. Managing data is a complex process, involving expertise in technology, knowledge organization, information policy, and in the research domain. These two Information Studies courses (262A and 262B) survey the landscape of data management, practices, services, and policy, including the uses of data in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities; data management practices (e.g., metadata, provenance, technical standards); national and international data policy (e.g., intellectual property, release policies, open access, economics); management of data by research teams, data centers, libraries, and archives; and data curation, preservation, and stewardship. The courses are intended for graduate students in information studies and in any domain that requires the management of research data. By bringing together students from across campus, these seminar courses will engage students in practical, professional, and theoretical challenges in the use and reuse of research data. Assignments include analyses of data archives, data management plans, curating data for a research team, and domain-specific activities. Students will work in teams with UCLA researchers and will make class presentations. The course provides basic foundation on data issues for masters and PhD students concentrating in libraries, archives, informatics, information policy, scholarly communication, and to students in other disciplines.

Students taking 262A in 2016 can take 262B in 2017 (not required, but 262A is prerequisite for 262B). Both courses will be taught in 2016-2017.

Tentative topic list for 262A, Winter 2016
Week 1: Overview of Data, Data Practices, and Data Curation
Week 2: What are data?
Week 3: Public policies for research data; requirements for researchers
Week 4: Data management plans and processes
Week 5: Data practices in the scientific domains
Week 6: Data practices in the social scientific and humanities domains
Week 7: Data sharing and reuse: practice and policy
Week 8: Data citation, credit, and discovery
Week 9: Data management by research teams, libraries, and archives
Week 10: Class presentations

Readings: Two books plus articles assigned via CCLE. (Borgman, 2015)(Ray, 2014)
Borgman, C. L. (2015). *Big Data, Little Data, No Data: Scholarship in the Networked World*. Cambridge MA: MIT Press.
Ray, J. M. (2014). *Research data management: practical strategies for information professionals*. West Lafayette, Ind.: Purdue University Press.