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IS40540: The Reflective Professional

Description

The purpose of this module is to offer professionals the opportunity to reflect on their work experiences, and learn from this reflection. This module is restricted to professionals with at least 5 years of work experience as an information and library professional and who are not currently enrolled as students in degree programmes at UCD SILS.

This 5-credit graduate level module is being offered in both the autumn 2010 and spring 2011 semesters.

Participants should apply to take this module as occasional students at UCD to participate in this course. An undergraduate degree or the equivalent is a pre-requisite for taking the module.

Information about how to apply can be found at:

<http://www.ucd.ie/sils/graduatestudents/occasionalstudents/> Applications for the autumn semester must be submitted by 21 September for the autumn semester, and 5 January for the spring semester.

Learning outcomes

A participant who successfully completes this module will be able to:

1. Critically discuss the roles and responsibilities of information and library professionals
2. Reflect on their professional work place experiences, and use that reflection to enhance their future work.

Assignment Overview

Students will be required to submit the following:

1. One-paragraph critiques of 3 articles. The articles will be provided to registered participants.
2. An up-to-date résumé and a short reflection on the résumé.
3. A reflective journal discussing a recent project or special activity. Details regarding the expected content of the journal will be provided.
4. Proof of completion of *one* of the following:
 - Completion of a total of 20 hours p.a. of continuing professional development (CPD) activities as defined by the Library Association Ireland. This includes¹: post-qualification academic courses; attendance at courses, conferences, workshops; publications; professional association activities and/or professional reading in each of the past 3 years; or
 - Completion of 2 major work projects or special (non-routine) activities, i.e., projects or special activities of 2-3 months duration with approximately 50% or more of your time spent working on the projects, or the equivalent; or
 - Completion of 10 hours p.a. of continuing professional development activities for each of the past three years, and completion of 1 major work project or activity, i.e., a project of 2-3 months duration with approximately 50% or more of your time spent working on the project or the equivalent.

¹ See <http://www2.libraryassociation.ie/about/education-committee/>

Course Meetings

There will be a 2-hour, face-to-face and online meeting at the beginning of each semester. Participants can elect to attend either the face-to-face or online meeting. The face-to-face meeting for the autumn semester will be held at the School of Information and Library Studies, room 107, on Monday, September 27, 5:15pm-7:15pm. The online meeting will be held Monday, October 4, 4:30-6:30pm. While everyone is welcome to attend the face-to-face meeting, only registered participants will be able to attend the online meeting due to technology constraints. Participants should attend either the face-to-face or online meeting, but not both.

There will be a second optional meeting in November, date to be announced. This meeting will be held face-to-face and online. Participants should attend either the face-to-face or online meeting, but not both.

No other course sessions are planned; however, the course instructor will be available via email, phone or face-to-face for consultation as requested by participants.

Grading

The assignments will carry the following weight towards your final grade.

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>% of Final Grade</i>	<i>Due Date in Autumn Semester</i>
Critiques	20%	18 Oct, 10:00am
Resume	20%	3 Nov, 10:00am
Journal	45%	3 Dec, 3:30pm
Documentation of completed CPD activities and/or projects	15%	3 Dec, 3:30pm

Instructor

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