Objectives

This course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the theory, implementation, and evaluation methods of text-based information retrieval systems. It covers health and biomedical information, current indexing and retrieval practice, system evaluation, research efforts investigating new approaches to indexing and retrieval, and digital libraries.

Time and Location

All class lectures and homework quizzes are online. The lectures cover the textbook content, with updates since publication of the textbook provided on the textbook Web site (see below). Students have interactive discussion in the Sakai forums.

Readings


In addition to the textbook, students are responsible for reading the chapter updates on the textbook Web site (http://www.irbook.info/updates-toc.html), which may be covered in the homework quizzes and final examination.

Registration

This course is open to all OHSU graduate students.

Course Outline

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<th>Textbook Reading</th>
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<td>Terms, Models, Resources, and Evaluation</td>
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Assignments

There are weekly homework assignments on the Sakai system consisting of multiple-choice homework quizzes. These are due one week after the material is posted.

Final Examination

There is an open-book final examination, which consists of short answer questions. Any material assigned for reading may appear, with emphasis on material that is covered in class.

Course Projects

A course project is required of all students, due June 3rd at 5 pm Pacific time. The project may consist of:

- A 10-15 page paper on a particular line of work on some aspect of indexing, retrieval, or evaluation
- A 10-15 page detailed proposal for a new approach to indexing, retrieval, or evaluation
- Implementation of a computer program implementing some aspect of indexing, retrieval, or evaluation, with 10-15 pages of commented code
- Participation in the TREC Medical Records Track challenge evaluation

More details about the project will be provided during the term.

Grading

Grading consists of 30% assignments, 30% final examination, 30% course project, and 10% class participation.

The course is graded on a curve, but usually adheres to the following distribution:

- A 90-100
- A- 85-89
- B+ 80-84
- B 75-79
- B- 70-74
- C+ 65-69
- C 60-64
- D/F <60

Graduate Studies in the OHSU School of Medicine is committed to providing grades to students in a timely manner. Course instructors will provide students with information in writing at the beginning of each course that describes the grading policies and procedures including but not limited to evaluation criteria, expected time needed to grade individual student examinations and type of feedback they will provide.
Class grades are due to the Registrar by the Friday following the week of finals. However, on those occasions when a grade has not been submitted by the deadline, the following procedure shall be followed:

1) The Department¹/Program Coordinator² will immediately contact the Instructor requesting the missing grade, with a copy to the Program Director and Registrar.

2) If the grade is still overdue by the end of next week, the Department¹/Program Coordinator² will email the Department Chair directly, with a copy to the Instructor and Program Director requesting resolution of the missing grade.

3) If, after an additional week the grade is still outstanding, the student or Department¹/Program Coordinator² may petition the Office of Graduate students for final resolution.

¹ For courses that are run by a specific department.
² For the conjoined courses (course number is preceded by CON_, that are run by Graduate Studies.

Academic Honesty

Course participants are expected to maintain academic honesty in their course work. Participants should refrain from seeking past published solutions to any assignments. Literature and resources (including Internet resources) employed in fulfilling assignments must be cited. See http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/library/research-assistance/plagiarism.cfm?WT_rank=1# for information on code of conduct for OHSU and http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/teaching-and-learning-center/for-students/index.cfm for more information on citing sources and recognizing plagiarism.

In an effort to uphold the principles and practice of academic honesty, faculty members at OHSU may use originality checking systems such as Turnitin to compare a student’s submitted work against multiple sources. To protect student privacy in this process, it will be necessary to remove all personal information, i.e. student name, email address, student u-number, or any other personal information, from documents BEFORE submission.

Student Access

OHSU is committed to providing equal access to qualified students with disabilities. Student Access determines and facilitates reasonable accommodations, including academic adjustments and auxiliary aids, for students with documented disabilities. A qualified student with a disability is a person who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in a particular program of study. As defined by the Americans with Disability Act (ADA), a person with a disability has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of the individual. This may include, but is not limited to, physical conditions, chronic health issues, sensory impairments, mental health conditions, learning disabilities and ADHD. Student Access works with students with disabilities from all of OHSU’s educational programs and at each campus.

Each school has an assigned Program Accommodation Liaison (PAL), who acts as an “in-house” resource for students and faculty concerning access issues for students with disabilities. The PAL works in collaboration with Student Access to implement recommended accommodations for students with disabilities.
It is recommended that you contact Student Access to consult about possible accommodations if you a) received disability accommodations in the past, b) begin experiencing academic difficulties, and/or c) are given a new diagnosis from your healthcare provider.

Learn more about Student Access:
Phone: 503 494-0082
Email: studentaccess@ohsu.edu
Website: www.ohsu.edu/student-access

Course Access

Every reasonable effort has been made to protect the copyright requirements of materials used in this course. Class participants are warned not to copy, audio, or videotape in violation of copyright laws. Journal articles will be kept on reserve at the library or online for student access. Copyright law does allow for making one personal copy of each article from the original article. This limit also applies to electronic sources.

To comply with the fair use fair use doctrine of the US copyright law, Sakai course sites close three weeks after grades are posted with the Registrar. Please be sure to download all course material you wish to keep before this time as you will have no further access to your courses.

DMICE Communication Policy

1. If the syllabus directs the student to contact the TA before contacting the instructor, the student should do so. Otherwise, the student should contact the instructor and allow 2 business days (not including weekends) for a response.
2. If the student does not receive a response from the instructor within 2 business days, s/he should contact the TA (if there is one). When contacting the TA s/he should cc the instructor and Diane Doctor at doctord@ohsu.edu.
3. If a student does not receive a response from the TA within 1 business day (not including weekends), s/he should contact Diane Doctor at doctord@ohsu.edu and cc the instructor and the TA.
4. If Diane does not reply within 1 business day (not including weekends), the student should contact Andrea Ilg at ilgan@ohsu.edu.
5. Students having difficulties with Sakai should contact the Sakai Help Desk at sakai@ohsu.edu or at (877) 972-5249. Sakai help is available M-F from 8am to 10pm and weekends from Noon to 5pm. Do not contact the instructor.