LIB 9101: INFORMATION COMPETENCE AND MANAGEMENT

Credit Units: **3**

Credit Hours: **45**

**Brief Description**

Information competency and management cross-cutting course is a three credit unit course developed and conducted by the University Library in collaboration with the East African School of Library and Information Science (EASLIS) and Faculty of Computing and Information technology.

Aware that today information handling is at the heart of the research process across all disciplines, the three credit unit course focuses on the identification and use of information sources and resources, and the management and effective presentation of the research results. In this course, students are introduced to a range of facilities available within Makerere University and beyond, that can support heir research. These include electronic database and e-journals as well as literature searching and information retrieval from the various printed and electronic resources, word processing, power point presentation, and file management. The course is also focused computer application in qualitative research, the techniques of storage, retrieval and processing/handling of various types of information/data, citation methods and the academic publication process.

**Course Objectives**

The major objective of this cross-cutting course is to impart knowledge and skills in the effective information seeking and management by postgraduate students/researchers. The course focuses on an individual’s course/research topic to provide information seeking competency and support to the student.

**Learning Objectives**

After undertaking this course, students are expected to:

1. identify and use of information resources (print and electronic) relevant to the researcher’s individual research topic
2. professional citing and quoting of authors versus interviewees/respondents
3. improved scholarly writing (writing skills)
4. file management of the many versions of electronic files researchers work on/with
5. creation and management of simple databases for the bibliographic data/references, e.g. using Endnote software, and their subsequent updating
6. computer applications in qualitative research e.g. using Atals.ti software.

**Course Content**

**Introduction to bibliographic searches for literature review:**

Literature searches, information retrieval and literature review: identification of relevant bibliographic sources, primary versus secondary sources of information, identification of subject keywords, synonyms, etc, role of thesauri;

**Professional citing and quotation**:

Citations: footnote, reference or bibliography, printed and the Internet publication. Quotations - authors versus interviewees/informants/respondents.

**Management of multiple electronic files and word processing:**

Outline a systematic way of storing, use and updating of multiple versions of files.

**Bibliographic database:**

Creation, management and updating simple database for the bibliographic data/references using Endnote software.

**Computer applications in qualitative research:**

Introduction to the use of Atlas.ti in analyzing qualitative data.

**Presentation of research work:**

The use of power point to present a summary of research work, and the academic publication process

**Course Delivery**

* Lectures
* In-class Practical work/Demonstrations
* Mini-field work and report writing
* Students’ research presentations