TDO @ Berlin School of Library and Information Science

Bachelor Core Course Information Systems and Services
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Berlin School of Library and Information Science

• founded in 1928, 1953 (post-war), 1990 (post-unification)
• Only university-based LIS education in Germany
• Based in philosophical department (humanities)

• 2 BA programs (LIS, Info Management & Technology)
• 2 MA programs (LIS Research, LIS Professional)
• New MA Digital Information & Asset Management (Fall 2014, in cooperation with Kings College London)
• Joint MA study profile with Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen
• PhD
BA Library and Information Science

- 6 semesters
- 2/3 LIS, 1/3 secondary subject (from 40 programs within Humboldt)
- 5 core modules (Module = lecture + seminar): Information Technology, Media, Information & Society, Information Organization, Information Systems & Services
- 1 project seminar, 1 internship (7 weeks)
- Other university-wide electives
- BA thesis (10 weeks, 40 pages)

Information Systems & Services Course

- BA program core class for 3rd semesters
- 40-75 students, weekly 90 minute lectures + reading + short assignments, final oral exam
- Content: The lecture provides an overview over the “information landscape” in Germany and worldwide: information content producers, content providers and information service providers. Different information systems, information portals and user search interfaces will be analyzed and compared. The lecture’s focus is on methods and strategies for the evaluation of information systems and services – both from a user service and research as well as a technical services and functionalities perspective.
- We have a separate module on Information Organization – content from ch. 4 Description, ch. 5 Relationships, ch. 6 Categorization & 7. Classification is taught there.
**Course Syllabus & TDO**

Week 1: Intro – Definition of the concepts (information & document)  
Week 2: Information systems – Definition, Ch. 1 TDO  
Week 3: Activities in information systems – Ch. 2 TDO  
Week 4: Running an information system – Ch. 10 TDO  
Week 5: Information landscape in Germany – Institutions & organizations  
Week 6: Information systems – content & publication types  
Week 7: Information systems – typology, service providers, examples  
Week 8: Information systems – typology, service providers, examples  
Week 9: (Discovery) portals and information aggregation  
Week 10: Google + Summary first part  
Week 11: Information Seeking Models  
Week 12: Information Searching Strategies & Methods  
Week 13: Search user interfaces  
Week 14: Information Systems – (information retrieval) evaluation  
Week 15: Summary  

Guest lectures: Library union catalogs & services, enterprise search

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**TDO Integration**

- Ch. 1, 2, 10  
- Quizzes on chapters 1,2,10 (developed for ch. 1, translated into German for 2 & 10)  
- Peer Review Assignment: analysis of a self-selected information system with the 5 W questions  
- Assignment: comparison of TDO 5 W questions and Search User Interface criteria (Hearst, 2009) on one information system  
- Using the TDO framework for (5 W, activities) for evaluation

→ Works well also for Bachelor students!
**TDO Challenges**

- Ch. 9 – tried last year, too complex for 3rd semester
- Ch. 3 & 8 out of scope (too detailed)

- Ch. 4-7 scope of other module (more library-oriented)

- 5 W questions: „when“ is complicated, „what“ – the idea of coverage (e.g. for bibliographies) is hard to convey