Community Informatics Courses Spring 2010

LIS 590IBL Inquiry Based Learning (on-campus)
**Chip Bruce**
A survey of key concepts in an emerging field that studies how local, historical communities are using information and communications technologies. Covers key principles for work in the non-profit/public sector as people harness new technologies and media as individuals, students, families, community organizations, and so on. Overarching ideas prepare both professionals and researchers to understand and master this environment, whatever their technology background. Especially useful for those interested in public or community libraries, youth services, social work, education, and anyone interested in working with or studying underserved communities.

LIS 451 Introduction to Network Systems (on-campus)
**Martin Wolske**
Hands-on introduction to technology systems for use in information environments. The course steps students through choosing, installing, and managing computer hardware and operating systems, as well as networking hardware and software. Students will have an opportunity to design and create a working network environment as part of the course work. Mid-semester and end of semester field trips required. Details in syllabus. An additional class materials fee is assessed to the student’s bill (non-waived).

LIS 451 Introduction to Network Systems (leep)
**Beth Ruane**
Hands-on introduction to technology systems for use in information environments. The course steps students through choosing, installing, and managing computer hardware and operating systems, as well as networking hardware and software. Students will have an opportunity to design and create a working network environment as part of the course work.
LIS 490BB Broadband Networks (on-campus)
*Abdul Alkalimat (McWorter)*
This course will describe the building of Big Broadband, a high speed fiber optic cable based system to provide symmetrical connectivity of 100 meg to inner city and vulnerable populations. This course will combine a focus on hardware, software, and the social context in which this new system is being rolled out and used.

LIS 490GIL Geographic Information Systems (leep)
*Jon Gant*
Focuses on analytical methods using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and will apply these methods to community-based issues, local and national government, and civil society, as well as participatory methods using GIS. A hands-on course with weekly labs and service learning projects.

SW 554/LLS 554/HCD 541 Social Entrepreneurship in a Diverse Society (on-campus)
*Lissette M. Piedra*
This course emphasizes both the processes of critical analysis and principles of social entrepreneurship as important vehicles to bring about sustainable social change. Effective social policies and interventions in a diverse society are characterized by a demonstrable reduction of social tensions at the community level, as well as increased access to social goods such as adequate housing, safe communities, efficient transportation, affordable health care, quality education, and other public goods and services. This course examines issues raised by race, ethnicity, and class in the context of a diverse American society so that students may critically analyze the complexity these bring to the creation and implementation of public policy, service delivery, as well as governance and politics.