Linnæus University

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# Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Department of Cultural Sciences

## 1BO315 Biblioteks- och informationsvetenskap: Kunskapsorganisation III, Information Retrieval, 7,5 högskolepoäng

## Library and Information Science: Knowledge Organization III, Information Retrieval, 7.5 credits

**Main field of study**
Library and Information Science

**Subject Group**
Library and Information Science

**Level of classification**
First Level

**Progression**
G2F

**Date of Ratification**
Approved 2011-12-13
Revised 2013-11-11 by Faculty of Arts and Humanities.
The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2014

**Prerequisites**
General entry requirements. In order to be admitted to the course the student must have received the grade of Pass on at least 22.5 credits in the courses 1BO205 Library, user and society II, 1BO215 Knowledge Organization II or 1BO220 Pedagogics and Learning I, or their equivalents.

## Objectives

After completing the course, the students should be able to:

- account for basic principles in the creation of models, methods and measures for systems for document representation and information retrieval,
- account for the basic structure of online search engines and the most common principles for ranking digital documents, for example through link analysis,
- describe and discuss the development of the concept of relevance and how different applications of relevance assessment influence search practices in and forms of evaluation of systems for information retrieval,
- evaluate search results using different measures for evaluating search engines (primarily online) in order to be able to compare search strategies.

## Content

This course focuses primarily on two areas: traditional (mathematical) models for information retrieval, and practices for retrieval and evaluation of online search engines. The relation between queries and the structure of various document systems forms the basis for the development of research on information retrieval. A central part of the course concerns practical, comparative exercises in formulating search strings on the basis of evaluations of search engines. Theoretical aspects are related to central concepts in the research field, such as relevance, feedback and artificial intelligence. The seminars, as well as all practical parts, are compulsory.

## Type of Instruction

Teaching is delivered in the form of lectures, group work and laboratory sessions.

## Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).
In order to receive the grade of Pass, the intended learning outcomes must be achieved. The course is examined through oral and written presentations of compulsory assignments, individually and in groups. A retake examination is provided within six weeks (within the framework of regular semesters) and the number of examinations is limited to five (Higher Education Ordinance 6 chap. 21 §).

## Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted and compiled into a report, which is made available to students and filed and stored according to departmental regulations.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Baeza-Yates, R. & Ribeiro, B.D.A.N. (the latest edition) *Modern information retrieval: the concepts and technology behind search*. Harlow: Addison-Wesley, in selection, 400 p.

Saracevic, T. (2007) "Relevance: A review of the literature and a framework for thinking on the notion in information science Part II: Nature and manifestations of relevance" in *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 58(13), pp. 1915–1933, 19 p.

Saracevic, T. (2007) "Relevance: A review of the literature and a framework for thinking on the notion in information science. Part III: Behavior and effects of relevance" in *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 58(13), pp. 2126–2144, 19 p.

Spink, A. (1997) "Information Science: a third feedback framework" in *Journal of the American society for Information Science*, 48(8), pp. 728–740, 13 p.

Waller, V. (2011) "Not just information: Who searches for what on the search engine Google?" in *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 62(4), pp. 761–775, 15 p.

Additional texts may be added, ca. 200 pages.