

**A graduate seminar on the Economics of Information (LIS 549) is offered in the upcoming Summer Session during Summer II, 2016 (June 13-July 8)**

The seminar consists of meetings three times a week from June 13 through July 8 and is based on a group of interdisciplinary theoretical and applied readings relevant to the commodification of information and the impact of this commodification on national and international information policies in the digital age. Students, in association with the Seminar Instructor, will participate in discussions on the assigned readings in each class period. By the end of the seminar, students will have been exposed to the content of interdisciplinary literature on the economics of information which will provide an understanding of the scope and depth of issues relating to the economics of information in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The end product of the seminar is a research paper on a topic relevant to their interest in the Economics of Information. The Seminar is available for enrollment for 4 hours credit and the instructor is Terry Weech, Associate Professor, GSLIS.

**TEXT:** All required reading will be available through the University Library's e-resources.

**FINAL SEMINAR ASSIGNMENT:** This seminar explores many views of "economics of information." Some come from economics, some from information science, some from library science, as well as from other disciplines. As a final seminar assignment, students focus on one aspect of economics of information and develop a paper on the topic. Some topics explored in past seminars are:

1. Economics of information and economic theory.
2. Economics of information and political and social policy.
3. Economics of information and research and organizational policy.
4. Free vs. fee debate and the concept of information as "public good."
5. Impact of economics of information on organizational management.
6. Relationship between cost/benefits and cost/effectiveness in economics of information.
7. Relationship of new technology and economics of information.
8. The international flow of information and its economic impact.

Students are not limited to these topics, but whatever topic is selected must be done in consultation with the instructor. In past sessions of this seminar, graduate students from Business, Economics, Communication, Media Studies, and Informatics, as well as students from Library and Information Science, have enrolled. Several papers resulting from past seminars have been published. Students are encouraged to develop paper topics that would be eligible for publication in refereed journals. No prior course work in Library and Information Science, Economics, or other disciplines is required to enroll in the graduate seminar. The Seminar meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday from June 13 through July 8, 2016. Seminar paper drafts to be presented July 6<sup>th</sup> and July 8<sup>th</sup> - Final Revised Papers Due 8/1/16

**Contact Terry Weech at [weech@illinois.edu](mailto:weech@illinois.edu) with any questions about the seminar.**