

**Course Number & Name:** LIS 675 – Statistics for Evaluation of Library and Information Services

**Description:** The course applies the principles of *evaluation research* to contemporary problems related to managerial leadership in the information professions. Building on the *Research for Managerial Leadership for Library and Information Services* course, it covers the fundamentals of identifying and investigating *problems* relevant to continuous quality improvement and communicating the results to decision makers. It also provides an introduction to statistics and accountability.

- **Prerequisites:** LIS 672 – Research for Managerial Leadership
- **Audience (level, environment/setting):** beginning PhD; all settings
- **Student Learning Outcomes:** (see models document for definitions of leadership competencies – [www.simmons.edu/gslis/phdmlip/program](http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/phdmlip/program))
  - analytical thinking
  - problem solving
  - written communication skills
  - LIS domain knowledge
  - performance measurement
  - project management
- **Topics:**
  - evaluation research history
  - context and purpose
  - libraries as service organizations
  - types of evaluation research
  - measurement concepts
  - obstacles, opportunities and constraints
  - ethics
  - general systems model
  - steps of the inquiry process
  - statistics (descriptive, inferential, tests, analysis)
  - communication of findings
- **Suggested Textbooks/Readings:**
  - Utts, J. M. (2005). *Seeing through statistics* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Thomson Brooks/Cole.
  - Nitecki, D. A. (2004). Program evaluation in libraries: Relating operations and clients. *Archival Science*, 4, 17-44.
  - Supported by additional readings from the current literature.