INF2173H – Information Professional Practicum

An informal description on what the course is all about.

The goal of the practicum is to provide you with hands-on experience to supplement your theoretical knowledge and to help you develop professional competencies. Assignments are carefully structured to fit with the workplace and the classes are designed to focus on professional issues and workplace practices in different environments. The aim is to foster sharing, to deepen knowledge through experience, and to promote a high standard of professional practice and conduct in information work.

**Time Commitment**
The course involves a placement for students to work on a relevant project for 105 hours at the host institution’s site. The schedule of this work is a matter of negotiation between you and your chosen site. In addition to the placement, you have regular assignments for the course and meetings on a frequent basis. The frequency is determined by the instructor. The summer session is usually, but not always, offered on a compressed format via online chats. This allows you to take a placement outside the GTA. Always check the posted timetable for the most up-to-date information.

**Pre-requisite:** At least four (4) required courses in your concentration in addition to INF1005H and INF1006H Information Workshops.

**Placements**
For this course, the iSchool partners with information professionals and organizations that have a track record with us: the place and the professionals in it must be able to devote time to supervising and mentoring you in their work.

The placements are collected by the instructor and course support & public services technician, Anna Oh (anna.oh@utoronto.ca), in the term before the course. Students enrolled in the course will be able to see all available projects and select one after the first class, or as determined by the instructors. Each placement is discussed so that you can make a choice that is informed by your interests as well as the opportunities that are on offer.

You are also welcome to arrange your own placement, however you will need to contact Anna (anna.oh@utoronto.ca) ahead of time, and ideally two months before the course start date, to make sure the placement would be suitable.

Please remember that:
- INF2173H can only be taken once. While the placements may differ, the academic content will be the same. ROSI will also prevent you from enrolling in the same course twice.
- Workplace Safety and Insurance Coverage: While on site, and engaged in practicum activities, students are covered by the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board coverage. All forms are posted at: http://current.ischool.utoronto.ca/services/student/forms#Internships

Information about the practicum course and placements for the potential and previous practicum host supervisors can be found at: www.ischool.utoronto.ca/host-practicum