LIS 4000 Foundations of Library, Archival, and Information Science
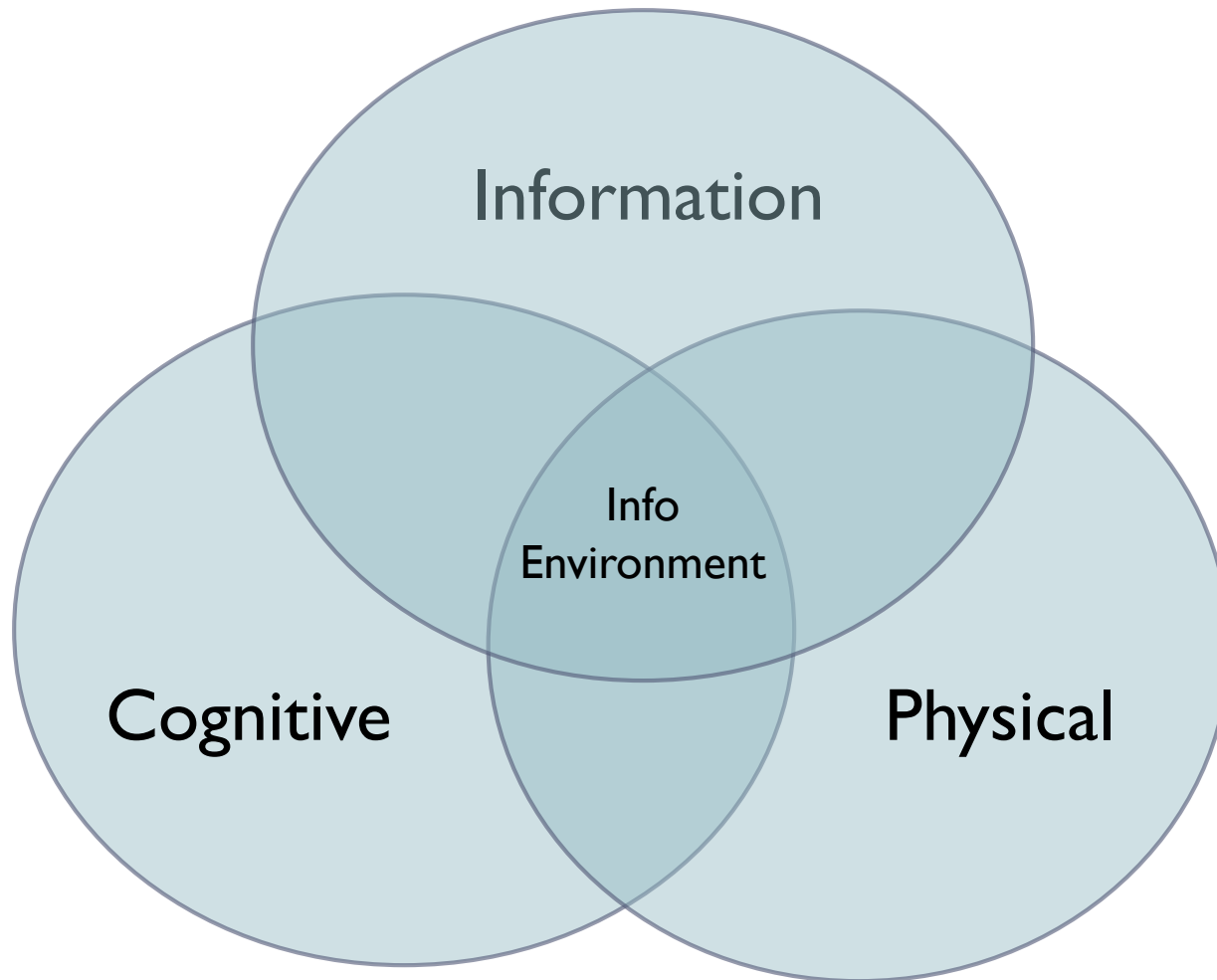
Mary Stansbury

Class #1

▸ To become acquainted with each other.

▸ To understand the LIS 4000 syllabus and the course requirements.

▸ To begin thinking about the environment and issues of libraries and archives.

▸ To discuss the features of critical thinking, reading, and writing.

▸

Dimensions of the Information Environment

Information Domain

- Where data are processed to make them useful

Cognitive Domain

- Individual and collective values

- Where information is used and organized

- Where decisions are made

Physical Domain

- Tangible

- Individuals, organizations, and information systems and the networks that connect them

In small groups of 3-4 people

- For each domain, identify at least two issues related to that domain.

- For example, one issue in the Cognitive Domain is the differences in values among generations.

Generally speaking …

- **Libraries**
  - Collections of books and/or other print or nonprint materials organized and maintained for use

- **Archives**
  - Also exist to make their collections available to people, but differ from libraries in both the types of materials they hold, and the way materials are accessed

Libraries

▸ Identify, acquire, preserve, and provide access to the world's published knowledge

▸ Promote equity of access to information

▸ Promote intellectual freedom

Libraries

- Support education and continuous learning and research

- Support the development of information literacy in society

- Serve as focal points for communities and promote community interests

Archives

▸ Identify, appraise, preserve, and make available documentary materials of long-term value to the organization or public that the archives serves

▸ Ensure the accountability of government by preserving public records and making them available to the citizenry as is legally and ethically appropriate

Archives

▶ Preserve unique or collectible documents

▶ Serve as memory institutions for a culture

▶ Support scholarly, administrative, and personal research

Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing

 ▸ What are the characteristics of critical thinking, reading, and writing?

- **Identify the author's thesis.**
  - Determine what the author is arguing for or against
  - Ask yourself what the context of the argument is and why the author may have felt the need to argue it.
  - Ask yourself if the author offers a solution to any problems they raise in their thesis. If so, ask if this solution is realistic.

- **Note all main ideas.**
  - Identify the main ideas of the work in order to analyze its structure.

    In an academic article, the main ideas can usually be found within the topic sentences of each paragraph or section.

- **Research unfamiliar material.**

- **Describe the work in your own words.**
  - One option is to make an outline of the work, while the second is the write a brief summary.
  - An especially thorough reading of the work will include both.

Resources

▶ University Libraries' Databases
  ▶ Library Literature & and Information Science Full Text and Retrospective
  ▶ Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts (LISTA) with Full Text
  ▶ See Also the Subject Guides at http://library.du.edu/site/about/databases.php

▶ Reference Librarians at University Libraries

▶ DU Writing Center