

Learning about Law in Library School

Dr. Jean Dryden
College of Information Studies
University of Maryland

Abstract

This paper presents the results of a study that investigated the extent to which legal issues that pertain to the work of information professionals are addressed in Canadian graduate library and archives education programs. Course descriptions, syllabi, and reading lists of courses that covered legal issues that were taught during 2008-09 academic year were gathered from the websites of the nine schools and from instructors. While this snapshot of the coverage of legal issues in Canadian library and archival studies programs is, for various reasons, incomplete, it nonetheless provides an impression of the main topics covered, their relative importance, and the wide range of contexts in which they arise. Further study is required to see if the coverage meets the needs of graduates and their employers.