

Appendix C

Comprehensive Exam Analysis: Student Performance

1. Comps Ratio of Pass versus Failure (2005 Summer -2008 Summer)

	Pass	Pass %	Fail	Fail%	Total
Sum08	19	95	1	5	20
Sp08	40	95.2	2	4.8	42
Fall 07	26	92.9	2	7.1	28
Sum07	39	95.1	2	4.9	41
Sp07	44	88.0	6	12.0	50
Fall 06	22	84.6	4	15.4	26
Sum06	34	94.4	2	5.6	36
Sp06	34	89.5	4	10.5	38
Fall 05	17	77.3	5	22.7	22
Sum05	29	87.9	4	12.1	33
Mean		90.0		10.0	

2. Question distribution in six competency areas

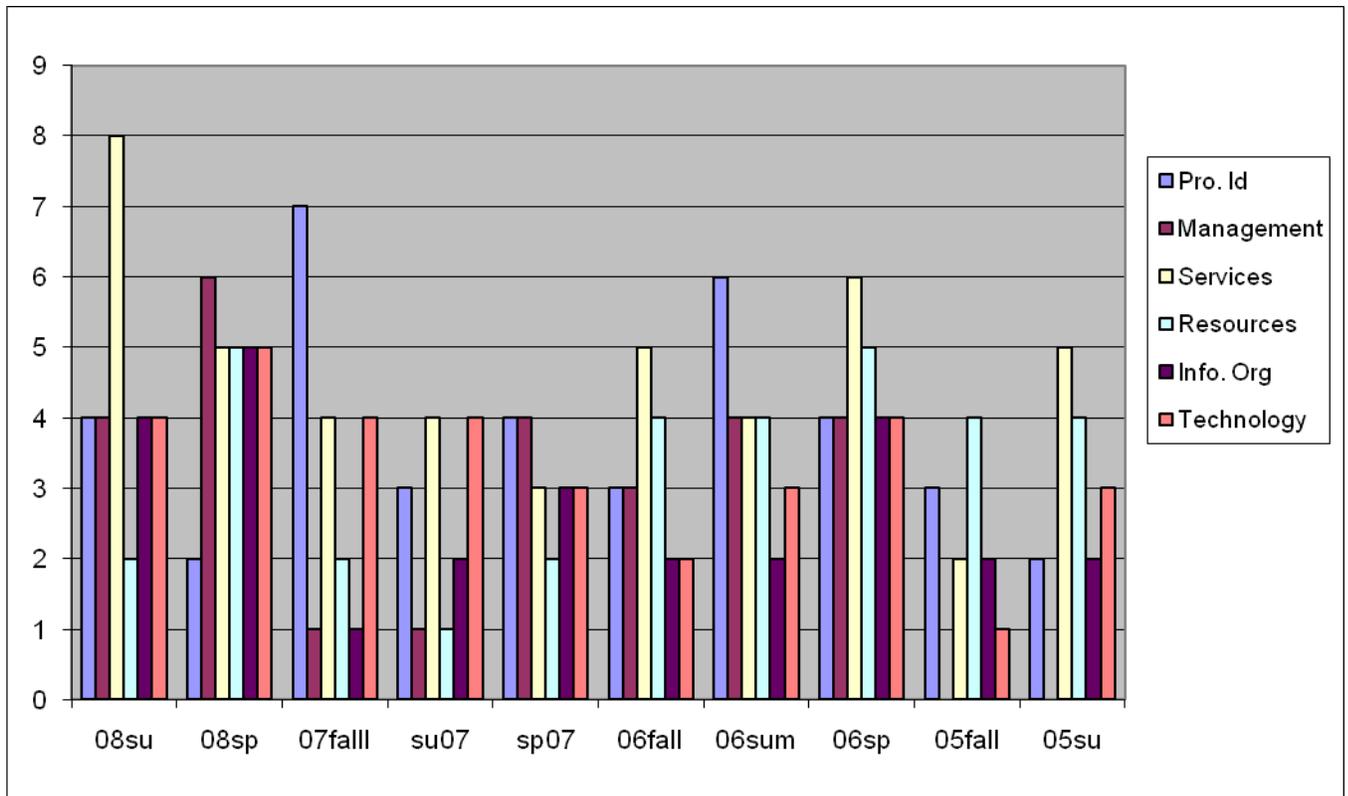


Fig 1. Comps Question Distribution by Competencies in Each Term

- Questions in areas (Professional Identity, Services, and Technology) were consistently given while questions in areas (Management and Information Organization) were not.

3. Answering Patterns based on Competency areas for top two questions in three: Most answered questions, least answered questions, and the most marginally graded questions.

(Note: this analysis is based on the first grading not on the second grading).

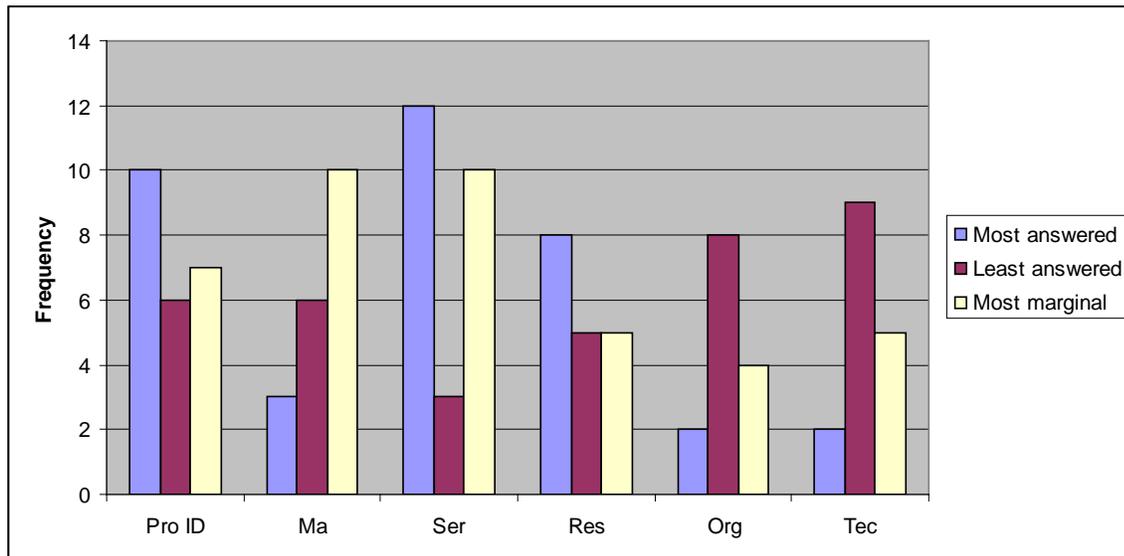


Fig 2. Answering Pattern in competency areas

- This analysis is based on only top two questions to reveal answering pattern.
- Even if this analysis has an issue of agreement as content analysis, we can get a sense of patterns of students' choosing questions to answer or student's weak areas in showing their comprehensive understanding in each competency area.
- Below I put actual questions for three analyses for your reading (Appendix pp. 3-11).

For discussion based on analysis

1. Question distribution:
 - a. Many questions were related to competency areas such as Professional Identity, Services, and Technology while questions on Management, Resources, and Information Organization were less.
 - b. Do we need more questions on Management or Information Organization needed?

2. Answering pattern

- a. It shows which questions students are likely to choose or which questions (areas) students try to avoid to answer (strong areas and weak areas)
 - i. It seems that students had a preference of answering a question related to Professional Identity, Services, and Resources.
 - ii. On the other hand, questions related to Technology and Information Organization were rarely chosen.
- b. Questions that student' answers were marginal demonstrate which areas we need to pay attention in education.

Most answered questions (top two in order for each term)

	Question
Sum08	<p>A patron of your public library presents you with a petition that has 100 signatures supporting the removal of the Harry Potter book series from your library due to its inappropriate content for children. How would you respond to this petition as a library and information professional? In your answer, discuss the ethical, philosophical, and practical issues you would consider in your response to the patron's concerns. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>In a recent Library Journal editorial, John Berry wrote, "Information is only one of the many things found in a library." Compare and contrast the ways that public, academic, school, and special libraries do more than provide access to information. Justify your answer using specific examples to support your statements. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sp08	<p>Some libraries are embracing online methods to provide information literacy instruction (e.g., bibliographic instruction, user education, fair-use of materials, etc.). Select an information center of your choice (e.g., school library or media center, archive, academic library, special library, public library, etc.). Compare and contrast the challenges and benefits associated with the delivery of information literacy instruction online versus face-to-face. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>Recent studies have found that as children grow older, their interest and time spent reading diminishes significantly. Further, adult interest in reading is declining. Reading is, however, associated with higher test scores, better achievement in college and better employment opportunities. What are the implications of these findings for information professionals? For an information center of your choice (e.g., school library or media center, archive, academic library, special library, public library, etc.), describe three strategies information professionals can use to encourage reading. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Fall 07	<p>It is not uncommon to see various statistics that indicate the pervasiveness of Google as a search engine for information on the Internet. In fact, in a recent OCLC study, Google was selected as the starting point for an information search by the majority of respondents. Conversely, the online catalog was not very popular, and it was infrequently referred to as a starting point. These types of statistics, and the ascendancy of Google, suggest that the librarian's role will change. Drawing on the knowledge you have gained from the SLIS program, discuss how Google will (or will not) influence the role of the information professional in society. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>Many libraries have included electronic resources and free Web resources in their collections. But managing the addition of such resources is not the same as adding print resources. From a collection development point of view, explain why building a good collection of electronic resources is different from building a good print collection and describe what the differences are. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sum	<p>In the digital age information seekers have many information tools and sources competing for</p>

07	<p>their attention. These include Web catalogs, search engines, digital collections, institutional repositories, special collections, archives, blogs, wikis, and many others. Choose an environment you are familiar with and consider the needs of people in that environment to conduct in-depth research. Discuss what information professionals should do to help these researchers make effective use of the information tools and sources named above. Include references to the literature as appropriate and justify your recommendations.</p> <p>In an information service setting of your choice, write an essay giving your view of how information services will evolve, and how the roles of information professionals will change in five years. In your essay, provide a historical perspective and integrate your own philosophy of information services to support your view. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sp 07	<p>What are the issues and considerations you need to take into account as you formulate a mission statement for your library or archive? Give two examples of how, as a manager or librarian, you would use your mission statement.</p> <p>As more students rely on the Web to do research and participate in online classes, fewer students visit libraries in person. Focusing your answer on either P-12 or higher education, discuss what your library should do to contribute to these students' learning, what technologies would help address these students' needs, and what other stakeholders should be involved in this effort?</p>
Fall 06	<p>A research paper reported on a study of students who performed searches in Google and on a university OPAC. In the words of the report, "... while students were aware of the problems inherent in Web searching and of the many ways in which OPACs are more organized, they generally preferred Web searching... students were able to approach even the drawbacks of the Web – its clutter of irrelevant pages and the dubious authority of the results – in an enthusiastic and proactive manner, very different from the passive and ineffectual admiration they expressed for the OPAC." What are the implications of this study? How should librarians respond to this finding about user behavior?</p> <p>What are the advantages and disadvantages of embedding librarians in a variety of units within an organization rather than centering the work of the librarian in the information center? For a library or information services environment of your choosing, describe under what circumstances you would recommend such an organizational pattern for information service delivery. How would you assess which approach is best for the organization?</p>
Sum 06	<p>A patron has expressed concern that there are fewer books, journals, etc. in your library. As the public services librarian, you know that funding has been diverted for the purchase of electronic access to information. What is your justification? Frame the issue in the library setting of your choice.</p> <p>In a digital information world, where formats continue to evolve, what is the role of the library? Describe this role in terms of intellectual and physical access to digital information. What actions can the librarian take to ensure the long-term preservation of digital materials?</p>
Sp 06	<p>Recently a newspaper reporter suggested that a bookstore and the Internet are taking the place of libraries. Take any position in this you choose. Support your position by drawing on the literature you've read, the classes you've taken, and the views you've formed on the future of libraries and information services.</p> <p>Define information literacy. Discuss how a population that is information literate behaves compared to one that isn't.</p>
Fall 05	<p>Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of having the full text of four million books available for free from one website. Who benefits from this, and who is placed at a disadvantage? Why? How would this affect collection development policies and procedures in libraries?</p> <p>You are the director of a type of library of your choice. Members of your community petition you to remove a series of books - both fiction and nonfiction - that they claim "celebrate the gay lifestyle." What specific series of steps would you take in response to this petition, and why?</p>

Sum 05	<p>Compare and contrast face-to-face reference services and computer-mediated reference services in terms of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> how the services are provided, how users' behavior and expectations may vary in these two modes of services, and the knowledge and skills librarians must possess to provide reference services effectively. <p>Our professional commitment is to design library or archive services and collections based on a needs assessment. Choose a client group and explain how you would identify their information needs. Explain how this would influence your design of a collection, reference services, or services related to information literacy.</p>
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Least answered questions (top two in order for each term)

	Question
Sum08	<p>Needs assessment and feasibility analysis are important activities in developing, acquiring, or managing a library, archive or other information system. Explain the significance of these two activities and describe the important elements of each activity. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>Information professionals use metadata to organize resources in libraries, archives, and other types of information centers. For this reason many metadata schemas have been developed, such as AACR, MARC, Dublin Core, Encoded Archival Description, Visual Resources Association Core (VRA Core), and others. Discuss at least three key issues information professionals need to consider as they select metadata schemas to organize information resources for short-term and long-term access in a networked environment. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sp08	<p>For an information center of your choice (e.g., school library or media center, archive, academic library, special library, public library, etc.), define the specific "life cycle" of information. List and describe the stages of the cycle and their relationship to information use and management. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>Many libraries manage multiple locations or service points, for example public library branches, archival library branches, school library grade-level focused collections, etc. For an information center of your choice (e.g., school library or media center, archive, academic library, special library, public library, etc.), identify and discuss three issues (such as technology, people, resources or management) that arise when multiple libraries exist within the same parent organization. Discuss how to solve these issues, taking into consideration the information needs and mission of the institution. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Fall 07	<p>Librarians and other information professionals must balance protecting the privacy of their patrons and clients with opportunities for enhancing information accessibility using technology. In particular, information professionals must maintain an awareness of, and respond to new challenges to information privacy engendered by technology deployment. For an information setting of your choice, identify three current technologies or technology trends that have an impact on information privacy and accessibility. For each one, discuss its impact on serving users, delivering information and protecting privacy. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>A recent <i>American Libraries</i> article scrutinized the relevance of the Library Bill of Rights. Using the Library Bill of Rights or another code of ethics for information professionals as an example, describe the relevance of codes of ethics to the profession. As you construct your answer, consider the following questions: Can one set of standards govern and guide professionals in all areas of library, archival, and information science? How are such standards</p>

	<p>relevant in a continually changing profession? Can the field unify and design standards to meet the diversity of the profession? Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sum 07	<p>Define federated searching and describe the types of organizations and technologies needed to provide a federated search service. In addition, discuss the strengths and limitations of federated search systems that are currently available. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>In the document, “A framework of guidance for building good digital collections,” the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) states, “Collections principle 7: A good collection fits into the larger context of significant related national and international digital library initiatives.” Choosing a specific subject area or domain to illustrate your answer, describe why this is important, and explain what issues and efforts must be taken into account related to this principle. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sp 07	<p>Metadata support many purposes such as resource discovery and administration. Choose one standard metadata schema and discuss its characteristics and elements in relation to the purposes of that standard. In addition, describe a specific application and identify some considerations when you are adapting this standard to the application.</p> <p>Interoperability is a highly valued concept in the field of library and information science. Define interoperability and discuss its significance. In addition, discuss interoperability within a distinct information application, context, or domain.</p>
Fall 06	<p>Should library policies discuss the options under which federal, state and local law officials can legally access personally identifiable information about patrons? What effect does this access have on the education of which segments of the patron base? Describe the effects in the context of specific demographic groups.</p> <p>Critics of new technologies place special value on the physical form of a book or manuscript. Whether the suggested replacement is microform or electronic file, they find such substitutes inferior to the “real thing”. What attributes of a book or manuscript cannot be successfully duplicated in photographic or electronic form? What would your criteria be for deciding which works could be replaced by such copies, and which must be provided in their original form? How does this compare to the issues involved in the preservation in paper format of a “born digital” electronic document or file?</p>
Sum 06	<p>Attorney General Gonzales continues to receive positive and negative feedback from librarians regarding the recent changes to section 215 of the USA Patriot Act. He has contracted you to explain why some librarians continue to oppose the law while others remain in support of it. Draft your response to the Attorney General.</p> <p>Libraries of all types deal with “problem patrons” – library users whose behavior is disturbing or even threatening to librarians, staff, or other patrons. What issues are involved in responding to such situations? What should new staff members be told about dealing with such difficult situations?</p>
Sp 06	<p>Describe two existing technology standards relevant to libraries and information service communities. Include in your description the primary characteristics and properties of standards in general, and of these two standards in particular. Also discuss the role and impact of standards on designing, implementing, and utilizing information systems.</p> <p>You are assigned to create information infrastructure for a rural village in Africa, which now has only a limited educational facility. What kinds of policies would you make with regard to sources and services; intellectual and physical access; educational and community programs; networking; global knowledge base; and local cultural heritage preservation?</p>
Fall 05	<p>Define precision and recall. What are their limitations as measures of information retrieval</p>

	<p>performance? What search strategies (or, if you prefer, what strategies in system design) can be used to improve precision in a search, and what strategies would improve recall?</p> <p>Discuss the life cycle of a specific body of information, using as your example the works of a specific author or creator (for example, a scientific researcher, or a popularizer of scientific research, or a creative writer such as a novelist or poet). Consider in your discussion both the intellectual content and the physical manifestation of the work.</p>
Sum 05	<p>Define metadata and describe four types of metadata. Discuss the similarities and differences between metadata and cataloging as methods for organizing information resources in libraries.</p> <p>Efficiency, effectiveness and user satisfaction are three key criteria for assessing the performance of information systems. Use a scenario to discuss the importance of each criterion, and describe how each criterion may be operationally measured.</p>

Top two questions graded marginally in the first reading

	Question
Sum08	<p>In a recent Library Journal editorial, John Berry wrote, “Information is only one of the many things found in a library.” Compare and contrast the ways that public, academic, school, and special libraries do more than provide access to information. Justify your answer using specific examples to support your statements. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>Select two areas of library operations where library professionals need to work with stakeholders in order to meet the library’s goals. Explain why such collaboration is important and discuss steps library information professionals can take to ensure successful collaboration in these two areas. Some examples of areas of library operation include collection development, media services, information organization, and acquisition of information systems. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sp08	<p>Principle VI of the ALA Code of Ethics states, “We do not advance private interests at the expense of library users, colleagues, or our employing institutions.” For an information center of your choice (e.g., school library or media center, archive, academic library, special library, public library, etc.), explain why this principle is important. Describe three scenarios that could lead to this principle being violated. Discuss three things a professional can do to promote compliance with this principle. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>To meet user expectations, today’s libraries provide or are experimenting with an array of digital services. Examples include virtual reference services, digital libraries, digital collections, institutional repositories, remote access, web portals, etc. For an information center of your choice (e.g., school library or media center, archive, academic library, special library, public library, etc.), select one type of digital service that could be implemented and explain your choice. Outline an implementation plan for that service. Describe three important steps in the plan. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Fall 07	<p>Librarians and other information professionals must balance protecting the privacy of their patrons and clients with opportunities for enhancing information accessibility using technology. In particular, information professionals must maintain an awareness of, and respond to new challenges to information privacy engendered by technology deployment. For an information setting of your choice, identify three current technologies or technology trends that have an impact on information privacy and</p>

	<p>accessibility. For each one, discuss its impact on serving users, delivering information and protecting privacy. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>It is not uncommon to see various statistics that indicate the pervasiveness of Google as a search engine for information on the Internet. In fact, in a recent OCLC study, Google was selected as the starting point for an information search by the majority of respondents. Conversely, the online catalog was not very popular, and it was infrequently referred to as a starting point. These types of statistics, and the ascendancy of Google, suggest that the librarian's role will change. Drawing on the knowledge you have gained from the SLIS program, discuss how Google will (or will not) influence the role of the information professional in society. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sum 07	<p>Consider the content of the four core courses taken in the SLIS program. Describe a key or fundamental concept covered in the core courses and their application to professional information management positions, such as archivist, librarian, digital curator or school media librarian. Select a professional position and map the core concept to that position's responsibilities and activities. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p> <p>In the document, "A framework of guidance for building good digital collections," the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) states, "Collections principle 7: A good collection fits into the larger context of significant related national and international digital library initiatives." Choosing a specific subject area or domain to illustrate your answer, describe why this is important, and explain what issues and efforts must be taken into account related to this principle. Include references to the literature as appropriate.</p>
Sp 07	<p>Select three common library policies. Discuss how they can facilitate access to a library's information as well as the library's facilities. How and when can those same policies, intentionally or unintentionally, prevent access?</p> <p>Metadata support many purposes such as resource discovery and administration. Choose one standard metadata schema and discuss its characteristics and elements in relation to the purposes of that standard. In addition, describe a specific application and identify some considerations when you are adapting this standard to the application.</p>
Fall 06	<p>The local school board is responsible for pre-school through community college services. You have been asked to speak to the board about how libraries contribute to student learning, faculty teaching, and a productive school district. What would you say?</p> <p>What are the advantages and disadvantages of embedding librarians in a variety of units within an organization rather than centering the work of the librarian in the information center? For a library or information services environment of your choosing, describe under what circumstances you would recommend such an organizational pattern for information service delivery. How would you assess which approach is best for the organization?</p>
Sum 06	<p>In a recent issue of <i>Information Outlook</i>, a revered librarian was asked what librarians could do to excel in the profession. His answer was, "Always think like the managers—not your boss but their bosses." If this is wise advice for people working in any library or information center, how will you go about learning what the managers are thinking? What do you need to know? How does such knowledge facilitate the library's ability to assist the whole organization?</p> <p>A patron has expressed concern that there are fewer books, journals, etc. in your library. As the public services librarian, you know that funding has been diverted for the purchase of electronic access to information. What is your justification? Frame the issue</p>

	in the library setting of your choice.
Sp 06	<p>In what sense does the World Wide Web function as a library? In what sense does it not function as a library?</p> <p>When libraries acquire digital information resources, they generally license rights from vendors, rather than purchasing the resources outright. Why is this distinction important? What rights do libraries typically obtain in these transactions, and what rights do they not obtain?</p>
Fall 05	<p>Identify and discuss four attributes or skills that an information literate individual should possess, regardless of discipline, learning environment, or level of education. In a setting of your choice, how would you promote the development of each?</p> <p>Controlled vocabulary encompasses controlled subject terms, such as the Library of Congress subject headings, and classification systems, such as the Dewey Decimal Classification system. Explain the strengths of controlled vocabulary. Discuss what functions both controlled subject terms and classification systems serve in computer-based information systems.</p>
Sum 05	<p>What is owned in “intellectual property”? How do the issues involved in protecting such property rights differ from those involved in protecting rights to other types of property?</p> <p>An article in a professional journal for our field states, “In 2004 the digital v. print debate is over, and digital has won; some of us just refuse to believe it.” Take a position on this statement. You may agree or disagree, but you must explain your rationale for the position you choose. Your discussion should reflect the literature you’ve read, the classes you’ve taken, and your own assumptions about the field of librarianship.</p> <p><u>In addition</u>, discuss how you will work with others who support the other position.</p>