

Fall 2024 Comprehensive Examination Questions

Question 1.

Explain why information retrieval is an important area of practice and research for library and information science. Describe how the elements of retrieval such as document representation, retrieval mechanism, and query terms are related to users' information needs. Discuss the importance of understanding the retrieval process in enhancing professional information services.

Question 2.

The ALA Code of Ethics states that librarians should provide the highest level of service to all library users through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable service policies; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all requests. For a library or information service of your choice, discuss how this principle applies to information organization or information services. Given library policies and practices do not always conform to this principle, describe one challenging example and discuss how you would reconcile library policies or practices with this principle.