LBSC 671 Midterm (Spring 2014)

Name: _____

You have 3 hours (180 minutes) to complete this exam (although it should not take you that long). Time starts when you proceed past the next page (i.e., you cannot read the exam without starting the 3 hours).

Record your start date and time here: _____

This is an open book, open notes, open Internet exam. You may use anything that existed on the Internet before you first read the exam, and you may use any program on any computer.   Note in particular that you may look at any homework assignment from any student in this class (not just your own homework) if you find it helpful to do so.

You may not communicate in any way with any person about any topic during this exam. You may not discuss this exam or provide any information about this exam (such as whether you found it to be easy or hard) until the professor posts solutions, discusses the exam in class, or sends you your grade. The reason for this is that different people will take the exam at different times.

You may send your answers in any reasonable form (e.g., Word, text or PDF).

You must finish the exam within 3 hours of starting it, and you must finish it before 5:30 PM on Monday March 31, 2014.

Record your end date and time here: _____

Keep the following general test taking strategies in mind. If you find a question to be ambiguous, explain your confusion but provide an answer. This will make it possible to consider the cause of your confusion when grading your answer. Don't spend so much time on one question that you run out of time for other questions. Look over all the questions initially and answer the ones that will get you the most points (for the time invested) first!

A maximum of 100 points are possible on this exam. The questions are on the next two pages. There are four questions on this exam.

1. (60 points) Answer ONE of the following two questions (either a or b, but NOT BOTH). For either answer, the grade will be divided equally between 20 points for the application of the description standard (RDA or DACS), 20 points for proper use of the representation (MARC, MODS, or EAD), and 20 points for (the combination of) subject headings and name authority. If you answer both questions a and b, only the first one you wrote an answer for will be graded. There is no length limitation for your answer to this question.

   a. [Descriptive cataloging] Download the scanned PDF document from http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB453/docs/doc09.pdf . If for any reason you are not able to get the document from that address, I have placed another copy temporarily at http://www.umiacs.umd.edu/~oard/doc09.pdf . Create a complete bibliographic metadata record for this document using RDA and render that metadata record using your choice of MODS or MARC 21. Your bibliographic record must include one or more Library of Congress Subject Headings. The Library of Congress Name Authority File should be used as the source for names; for names that are not contained in that authority file, you should render the name in the form specified by RDA. For full credit, every part of your answer should be included in the representation that you have chosen (MARC 21 or MODS), but if there is specific information required by this question that you do not know how to include in that representation you may (for partial credit) include it separately (with an explanatory note) immediately following your bibliographic record.

   b. [Archival description] Use a Web browser to examine the collection of oral history interviews at http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/history/oral_histories/oral_histories.htm and then create a complete metadata record for that collection using DACS and render that record in EAD. Your EAD metadata must include one or more Library of Congress Subject Headings. The Library of Congress Name Authority File should be used as the source for names; for names that are not contained in that authority file, you should render the name in the form specified by RDA. For full credit, every part of your answer should be represented in EAD, but if there is specific information required by this question that you do not know how to include in EAD you may (for partial credit) include it separately (with an explanatory note) immediately following your EAD.

For the remaining questions (numbered 2-4), your answer for each question should be about half a page. Shorter answers that answer the question well would be fine. Longer answers, if you feel that a longer answer is needed, must be no longer than a page (and you should NOT make all your answers that long).

2. (20 points) Explain how the structure of the publishing and the distribution industries affect the ways in which public libraries acquire materials. A complete answer should address both manuscripts (e.g., books) and serials (e.g., journals), and it should address both physical and digital materials.

3. (10 points) Compare and contrast Portico and LOCKSS as means for long-term preservation of access to certain types of digital content. In your answer, you should briefly identify which broad classes of risks both services seek to address, and then you should focus for most of your answer on the differences in the types of risks that each service seeks to protect against. In each case (i.e., for each type of risk that is protected against by LOCKSS or Portico or both) you should briefly describe how that service mitigates that risk. For example, you might say that Portico,but not LOCKSS, seeks to protect against [insert type of risk here], and that it does so by [insert how it does it here]. Note that I am not just looking for a description of how each service operates, but rather for a description of what each service achieves by operating in the way it does.

4. (10 points)In our readings for Week 2, Thelwall and Vaughan analyze some differences in the coverage of the Internet Archive for Web pages from different countries. Ultimately, these differences arise from the way in which the Internet Archive acquired those pages.   Use Broder's concept that the World Wide Web can be described by an analogy to a "bowtie" to explain why the Internet Archive might have more difficulty acquiring some Web pages than others.

Hand type the following university honor pledge in your answer (cut and paste is not allowed):

"I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this exam"

Don't forget to record your end time. Email your exam to oard@umd.edu immediately after finishing with the subject line "671 Midterm"

------------------------ End --------------------------------