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## Take off your jewelry: A 'simple' approach to LibGuides design

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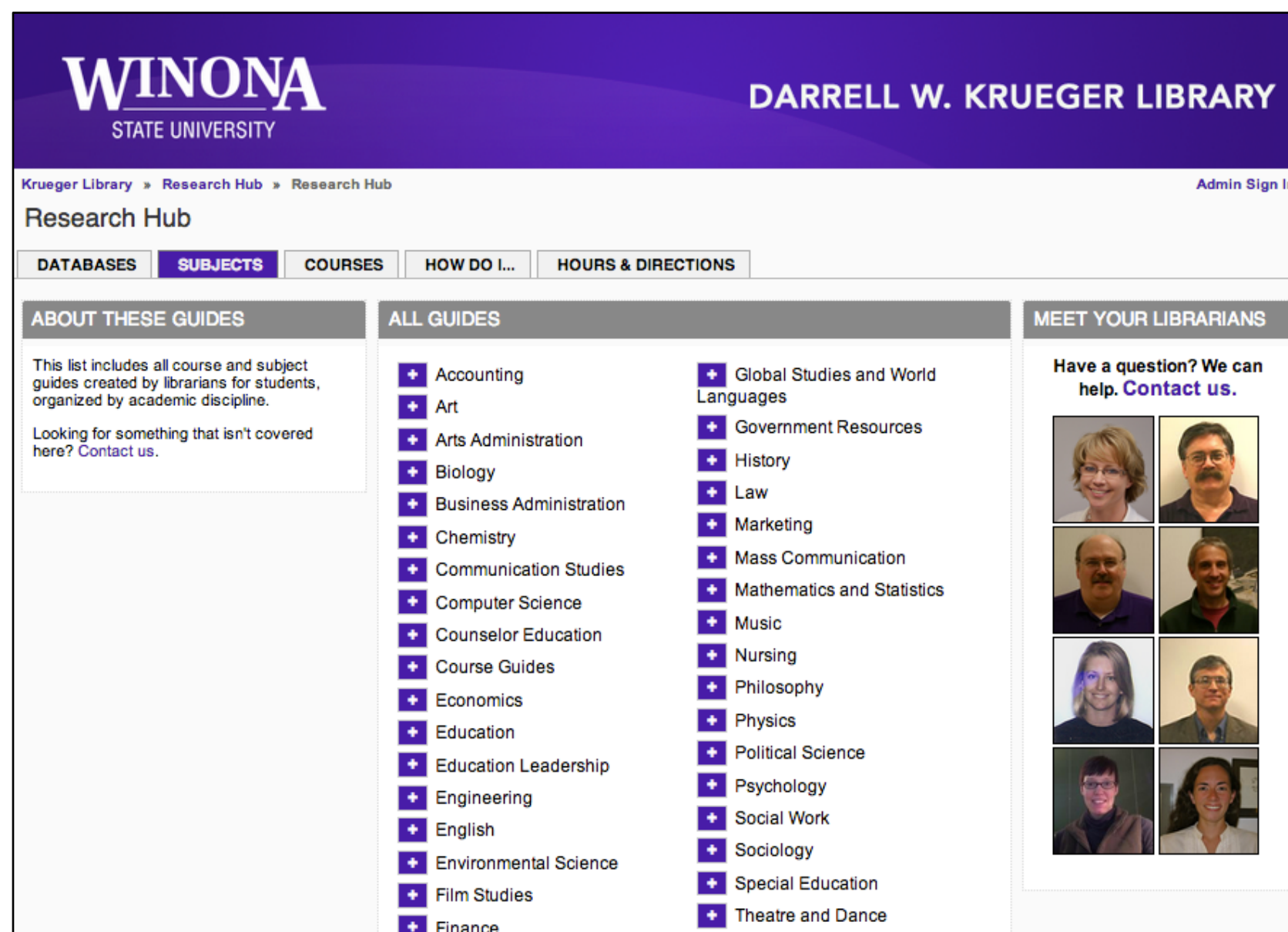


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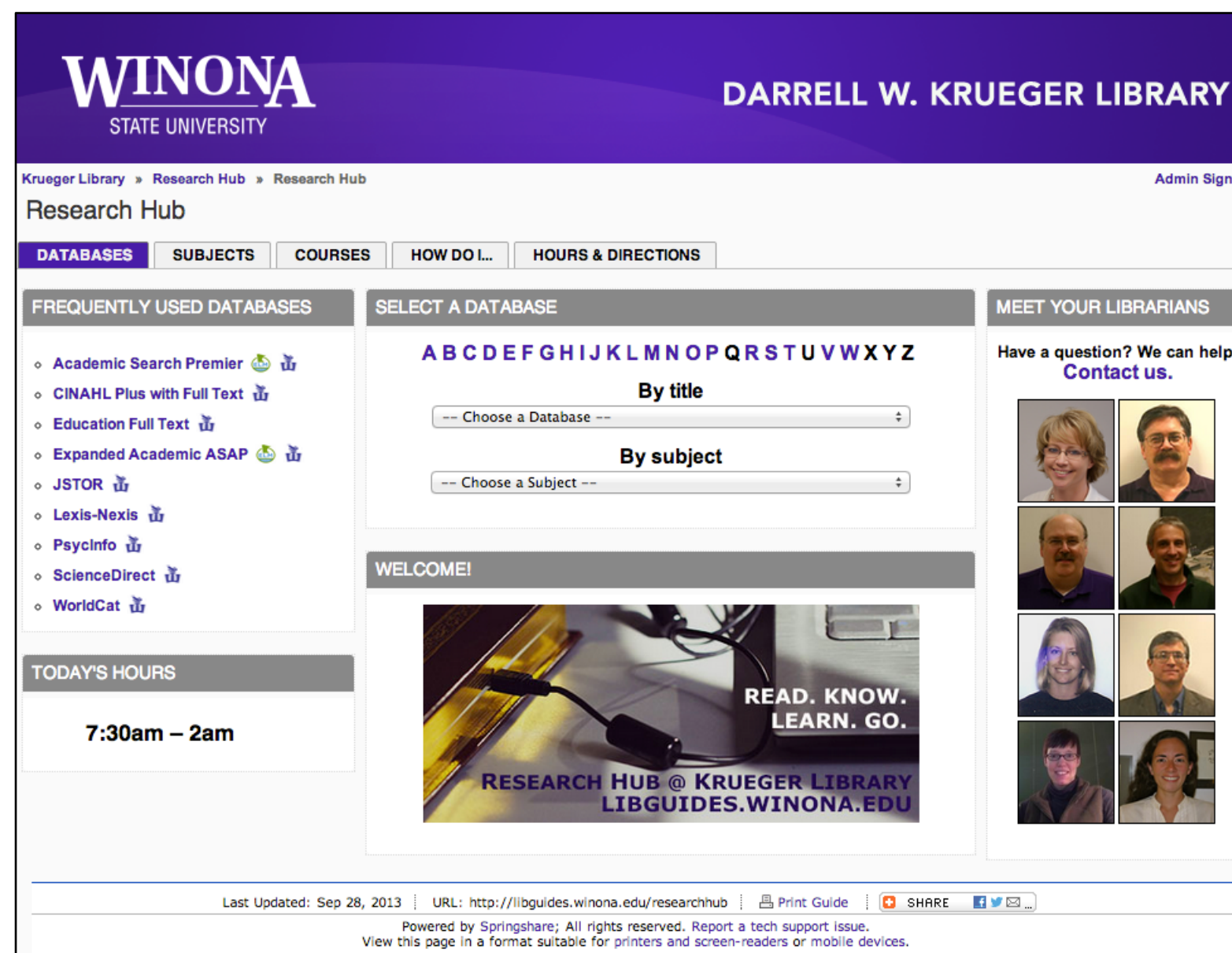
*“Ornamentation is like jewelry.  
Put on all of your best,  
then take most of it off.”*  
K.K. Merker, literary publisher

Tammi Owens, Emerging Services Librarian  
Allison Quam, Reference Librarian  
Winona State University

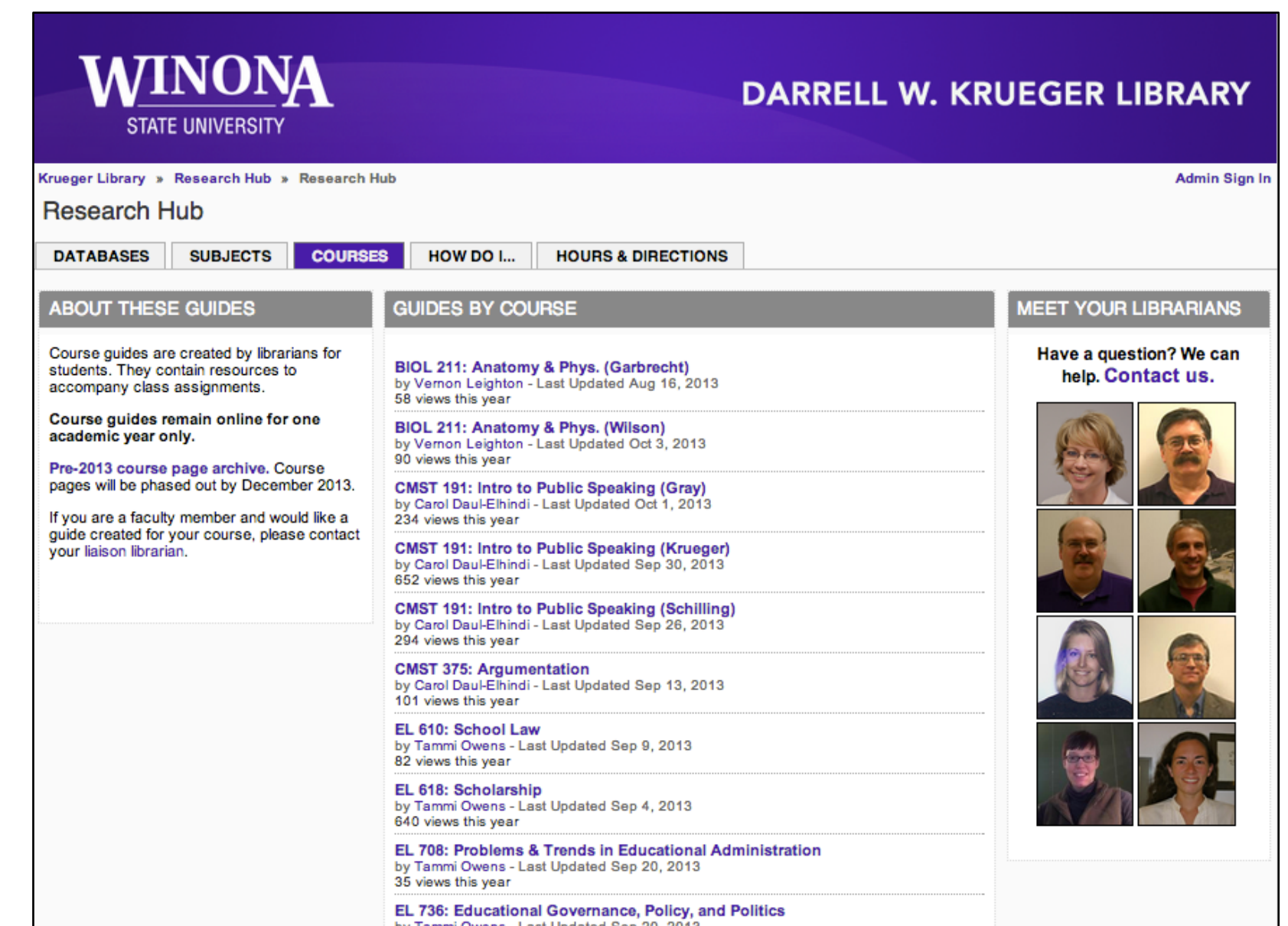
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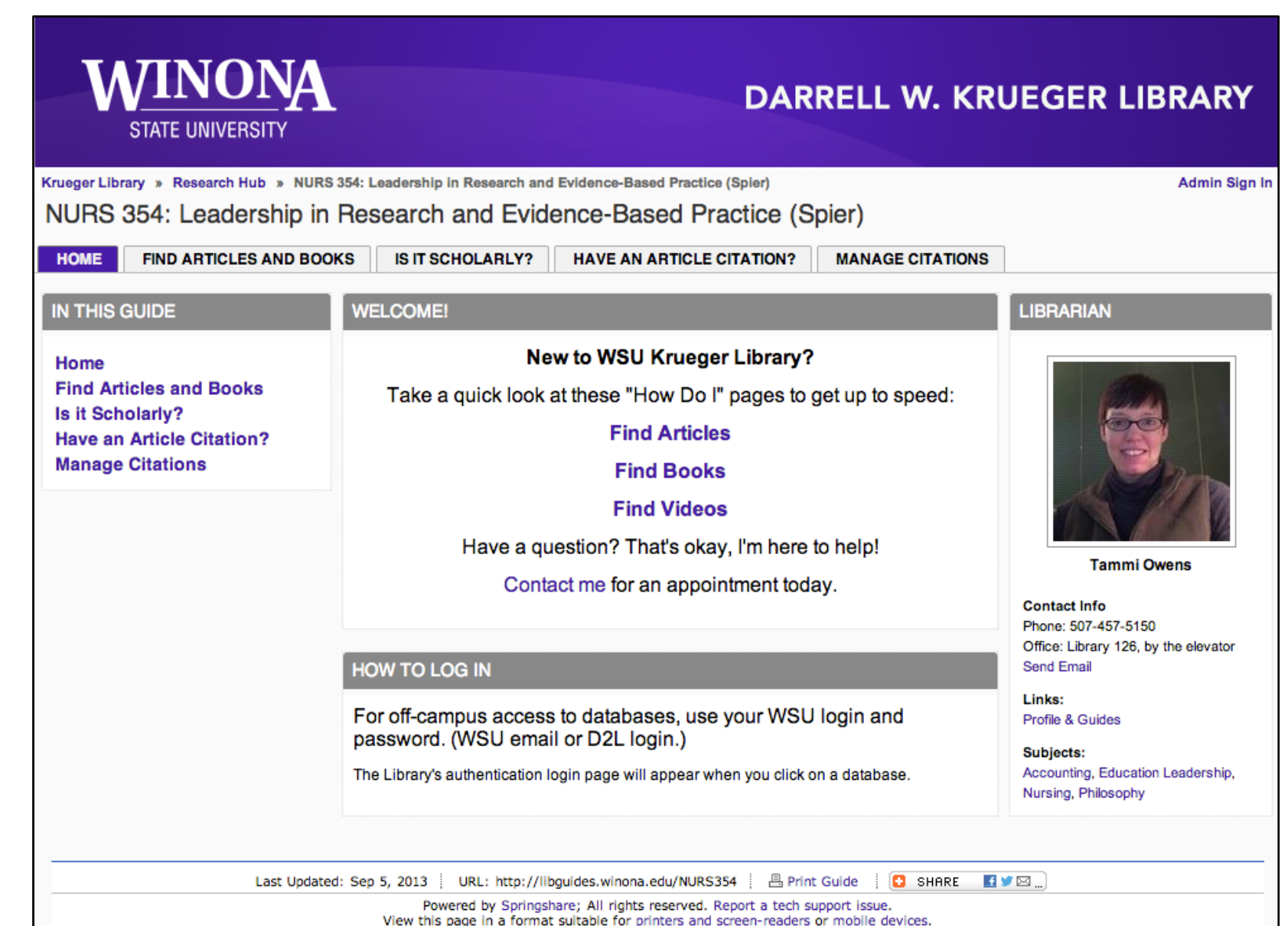


Course guides landing page.



Film Studies subject guide.

- **Keep it simple:** design continuity, one-click database navigation, single-page layouts, no dropdowns, no search boxes
- **Make it scannable:** place important information in upper right corner, pull eye across page with right-side photos
- **Control cognitive overload:** use white space, fewer than 15 links per page, single row of fewer than 6 tabs
- **Resist librarian-ing:** use plain language, fewer words, just-in-time resources



NURS 354 course guide.

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