Assignment 1

The UCLA online catalog is accessible to the public. The public can clearly see the online catalog in the middle of the page, as well as the bottom underneath the resource tab. Once clicked on, the website directs you to UCLA Library catalog where there are two tabs of recommended and advanced search. I used the recommended to search for a film called “Stranger than Paradise”. Two results were found. The second result had more information about the same film, but also had in uppercase letters that the film was not circulating. The documentation for the first result was a brief view including: version, cast, credits, genre, subject, credits, and holding information. The results were exactly what I wanted, except the dissatisfactory information that the six copies are not circulating. MARC is the metadata standard used on this search, because the site says it in the corner of the page. The order that was received for this search only had two searches. The first had less information than the second one. I figured the order was based on how much information was presented in each search.

The second search was in the advanced search engine. I used the words "Bettie Page" and "censorship". I had zero results. Took out the word censorship, and received three results. The first result was "Harold Lloyd collection of home movies, 1926-1971". The other two results was "Notorious Bettie Page". These results are not what I am looking for or what I want. The information that was given to me was scarce. Other words was typed in the search engine, but no results were found.

Third search was the word "censorship" in topic. 38 results. I did not find what I was looking for, but I did find something that looked interesting. I found a documentary on silent
films and censorship. It was the thirty second on the search. The description is not enough information to know what is on the material. The only information that I got was title, sub title, the people who helped make it. More information should be in the description. The metadata information helped me browse thru each search option quickly. I couldn't figure out what kind of order the results of my search.

The second website that was used to search for Betty Page was Pacific Film Archive. The website is busy, and needs a facelift of organization. Not knowing where to type in my search, I found a blank spot. I typed in "Bettie Page" and the webpage directed me to an advanced search. In the advanced search of Bettie Page, I found eight results. This search was easy to navigate because the search was broken up into hi to low relevance. The first two searches were films, as the rest were books. There are icons near the title on the result page. The last two results on the search was other relevant title entries with only half the name. After using the advanced search, the search engine was easy to use and control. The data to explain the descriptions was helpful on what I am searching. I think the Metadata standard is AACR2r because it classes the materials and gives a type of description. At first, I thought it was AMIM2, but the description in the search did not have release dates and versions or country of production. I think the metadata supported my results. It gives me the missing information that I needed to continue my search on this particular person. The order of the results was biography on Bettie, followed by shorts she was in, lastly in relation to her. I typed in "pin-up" in the search engine and had 212 results. That is a lot of results so I advanced the search to online only. I received 123 results, and I only looked at one result. The metadata description is long. The words that I used in the search is highlighted in red so I can spot it easily. I believe it is a RDA structure because of the details.
The description has a lot of attributions towards the work. I don't think I need this work, but it is more than what I was expecting.

Comments:

At first it wasn’t clear if you were searching the full UCLA online catalog or the UCLA Film and Television Archive (but it seems to be the latter). The variety in information that comes back in the search results depends on what’s in the record. These are brief results that only show a few fields. In the first one, there is no publication statement in the record, hence it is lacking in the brief results.

In your examples you aren’t specific about how you searched for them—did you do a fielded search or keyword search? That is, did you search Stranger than paradise as a title or keyword? Same for the other searches.

In the Bettie Page and censorship search, you aren’t specific how you searched for them, which may explain the lack of results. Were you searching for them together or both of them (i.e. an “AND” search or an “OR” search—the former only brings up a record that includes both, while the latter brings up records that have either). Did you do these as fielded searches or keywords?

You say information was brief—but did you bring up the whole record? As mentioned only some fields are displayed in search results, but that doesn’t mean that’s all that is searched. The question about what metadata standard was used was intended to mean data structure standard—i.e. MARC, MODS, Dublin Core, etc. You answered that for the first site, but for PFA you said AACR2, which is a cataloging rule standard. You could have given more details about how the metadata supported it. You didn’t answer the question about how granular the metadata was (meaning for searching in the advanced search).

Grade: C+

It might have been good to have a brief introduction. There were a number of grammatical errors, so this would benefit from some proofreading.