LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE, MLIS: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

MLIS: Information Technology (IT) Concentration

Emphasizing the use, implementation, management and evaluation of information technologies for a wide range of organizations, the IT concentration will prepare you to work in a diverse information technology landscape.

Related Certificates

- Certificate of Advanced Study in Archives and Records Administration (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/archives-records-administration-certificate)

The School of Information Studies prepares students for careers in libraries and the information professions. The School's array of graduate programs provides students with the opportunity to develop attitudes associated with progressive information services, and to develop an understanding of the value, role, and application of modern technology as it relates to library operations and the transfer of information.

In harmony with the mission of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, a major urban research institute, the School of Information Studies strives to make significant contributions towards extending and enhancing the quality of information services and the promotion of information and technological literacy to a diverse society. The School of Information Studies is committed to excellence in instruction, research, and service.

Goals of the school are:

1. To prepare professionals who are able to provide leadership and adapt to change in a technological and knowledge-based environment for careers in libraries, school media centers, information systems, and related areas, according to accepted professional standards.
2. To enrich the library and information science profession through recruitment of students with strong academic skills from diverse cultural, geographic, and subject backgrounds.
3. To enable undergraduate students to achieve qualifications to pursue careers in the information professions through the provision of degree and certificate programs.
4. To enable students to develop specializations in the information professions at the graduate level through the provision of single and dual degree programs.
5. To promote a research orientation through participation in the Doctor of Philosophy degree program.
6. To contribute to the international knowledge base of library and information science through research and publication.
7. To facilitate the development, provision, and evaluation of library and information services through consultation services to individual organizations and leadership in professional associations locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally.
8. To offer opportunities for professionals and the wider community to update their skills and knowledge through advanced and continuing education courses, workshops, and programs offered nationally and internationally.

Admission Requirements

Application Deadlines

If at any time you are unsure about a published date or deadline (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines), call the Registrar's Office at (414) 229-3800 or submit a contact form (http://uwm.edu/registrar/contact-us) online.

Application

An applicant must apply to both the Graduate School and the School of Information Studies.

Admission

An applicant must meet Graduate School requirements (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/admission) plus the following additional requirements of the School of Information Studies to be considered for admission to the program:

1. Submission of scores on the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/admission/#gre) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). (GRE or MAT scores are currently required of domestic applicants and will be required of international applicants beginning with the summer 2004 admission term.) The test scores should be sent directly to SOIS. The GRE/MIT requirement will be waived for applicants whose overall undergraduate GPA, as calculated by the UWM Graduate School, is at least 3.00, or who already hold another master's degree or Ph.D., or the equivalent.
2. Applicants from foreign institutions are required to submit the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score. The minimum acceptable score is 550 PBT or 79 iBT. A score of 6.5 or higher on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) may be submitted in lieu of the TOEFL.
3. Two letters of recommendation from persons who can testify to the applicant's likelihood of success in the master's program in library and information science. References from former teachers or employers are preferred.

No prior coursework in library/information science is required. A student whose undergraduate grade point average is below 2.75 (4.0 basis) may be considered for admission on probation. See the Admission on Probation (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/admission) section of this Web site.

Faculty Mentor

Each student is assigned a faculty mentor in the School of Information Studies at the time of admission to the master's program. The name of the faculty mentor is included in the student's letter of admission and may also be obtained from an academic advisor in the School of Information Studies.

Credits and Courses

The minimum degree requirement is 36 graduate credits, 30 of which must be in library and information science and up to 6 of which may be in related areas. Students who have already completed a master's or doctoral degree in a field other than library science may have the library and information science master's program reduced to 30 credits. Under special circumstances, up to 6 of these credits may be from another field in a closely allied area with advisor consent. Students who have completed library science courses at the undergraduate level may,
upon request, have their coursework reviewed to determine whether
the content was the equivalent of that in required courses in the School
of Information Studies Program. However, the establishment of such
equivalencies will not reduce the total number of credits required for the
master’s degree in library and information science, but merely enable the
student to avoid unnecessary repetition.

The number of credits needed for each of the coordinated degree
programs is 12 credits less than the sum of credits of the two programs
if taken separately. All degree requirements of each component
program, however, must be satisfied. This includes makeup courses for
deficiencies, required courses, and graduation proficiency requirements.
The MLIS component of each coordinated program includes 30 credits of
SOIS courses including the 12 credits of required courses.

The following are basic required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 501</td>
<td>Foundations of Library and Information Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 511</td>
<td>Organization of Information</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 571</td>
<td>Information Access and Retrieval</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 799</td>
<td>Research Methods in Information Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
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</tbody>
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**Minimum Grade Requirement in the Required Courses**
The minimum grade requirement for the required courses is a B. Students
who earn a grade of B- or lower have not met the minimum requirement
and will be allowed to repeat the required course once. Students are
responsible for tuition in the repeated course; no credit is earned from
the first attempt at the required course, or any required course for
which a B- or lower is earned. Those who do not meet the minimum
grade requirements upon repeating the course will be recommended for
academic dismissal. Students may not register for a course for which
any of the required courses is a prerequisite until the minimum grade
requirement is met.

**Culminating Experience Requirement in Library and Information
Science**
Effective Fall 2016, INFOST 799 meets the requirement for the
culminating event for the MLIS program. If 591 was taken prior to the fall
of 2016, it can still be used to meet the culminating event requirement.
Said course must be taken in SOIS and cannot be transferred into the
program.

**Thesis Option**
Students may choose the thesis option in order to satisfy the program
requirements and must take at least three credits of thesis coursework
in addition to the 36 credits required for the comprehensive examination
option, making the minimum credits required for the thesis option 39
credits. However, only 3 credits of thesis coursework may count toward
the total degree credit requirement of 39.

Those who already have a graduate degree must complete a minimum of
33 credits for this option. Students who choose the thesis option in the
coordinated master’s degree programs also need to take an additional 3
credits of thesis coursework. Thus, while total degree credits vary among
the coordinated master’s programs, the Master of Library and Information
Science component of each requires 33 credits of SOIS coursework, three
of which would be taken as thesis credit.

Students pursuing thesis options in both programs will be required to
fulfill each program’s thesis requirement and complete two separate
theses. Students in the thesis option must take a minimum of 3 credits of
research methods. A course other than INFOST 799 may be chosen
in consultation with the major professor. Additional courses that do
not count toward degree requirements may be required by individual
circumstances.

Students must complete the required MLIS and research methods course
before they will be allowed to defend the thesis proposal. Students
must register for INFOST 898: Master’s Thesis (1-3 credits), during
every semester of thesis work. Students may select the thesis option
at any point in their course of study, but are encouraged to make this
decision and form their thesis committee as early as possible to avoid the
necessity of taking additional coursework.

The faculty advisor assigned to each student upon admission may serve
as the student’s thesis advisor, but is not required to do so. It is the
student’s responsibility to enter into a mutually agreed upon advising
relationship with a thesis advisor in SOIS, who then serves as chair of the
thesis committee.

Students must pass an oral examination in defense of the thesis. The
thesis defense may be repeated once. A student may withdraw from the
thesis option; however, the student would need to meet all course
requirements for the MLIS degree.

**Information Technology (IT) Concentration**
Students pursuing the IT Concentration must take 15 credits of
coursework from the list of qualifying courses as electives within the
overall MLIS program. To pursue the IT Concentration students must be
admitted into the MLIS program and must submit the IT Concentration
Declaration of Intent form (see SOIS website for details). This will allow
the program coordinator to track your progress and communicate with
you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 547</td>
<td>User-Centered Interaction Design (Graduate only)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 582</td>
<td>Introduction to Data Science (Graduate only)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 583</td>
<td>Survey of Information Security (Graduate only)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 584</td>
<td>Survey of Web and Mobile Content Development (Graduate only)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 675</td>
<td>Information Technology and Organizations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 682</td>
<td>Digital Libraries</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 685</td>
<td>Electronic Publishing and Web Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>INFOST 714</td>
<td>Metadata</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>INFOST 717</td>
<td>Information Architecture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 774</td>
<td>Online Information Retrieval</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 780</td>
<td>XML for Libraries</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 783</td>
<td>Information Storage and Retrieval</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>INFOST 785</td>
<td>Database Management Systems for Information Professionals</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 786</td>
<td>Multimedia</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>INFOST 787</td>
<td>Library Automation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 788</td>
<td>Information Systems: Analysis and Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>INFOST 789</td>
<td>Electronic Networking and Information Services:</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>INFOST 691</td>
<td>Special Topics in Information Science: (with appropriate subtitle)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFOST 891</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Library and Information Science: (with appropriate subtitle)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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