LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES: CAMPUS PROGRAM, MA

This is a named option within the Library and Information Studies MA (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/information/library-information-studies-ma/#text).

The ALA-accredited master’s degree at the Information School (iSchool) prepares graduates to develop, provide, and assess information services that create, collect, organize, store, analyze, find, distribute, and use information in a diverse, technological, and global society. The program prepares information professionals to work in multiple areas of the information professions, including libraries (public, university and college, youth services, special, and government), archives, digital librarianship (which includes user experience and data analytics/management), and information organization. Students can tailor their program to include other emphases such as Tribal Libraries, Archives and Museums, social justice, and digital humanities.

Librarianship: Graduates obtain employment in college and university librarianship, public librarianship, youth and young adult librarianship, electronic collections management, science and health librarianship, research data management, and school library media centers.

Archives in a Digital Age: Graduates obtain employment in digital asset management, digital preservation and curation, digital archives, corporate archives, government archives, special collections, and tribal libraries archives and museums.

Digital Libraries: Design, develop, and manage information technologies with a focus on the user. Potential jobs include user experience and web design, digital humanities, digital asset management and curation, database and data management, and IT training/instruction.

Organization of Information: Graduates obtain employment in metadata management, taxonomy and ontology development and implementation, digital asset management, cataloging, XML and linked data, and database management.

Full-time students generally complete the master’s program in two academic years; part-time students complete it in three to four years. Students gain hands-on experience as part of their degree through the school’s required field practicum. Students may choose practicum settings based on their career goals.

NAMED OPTIONS

Students interested in the Master of Arts in Library and Information Studies should refer to one of the named options:

• Campus Program (p. 1)
• Online Program (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/information/library-information-studies-ma/library-information-studies-online-program-ma/)

OPTIONAL SPECIALIZATIONS

The Information School hosts several specializations that require specific coursework from other departments or other requirements.

Business School Graduate/Professional Certificate in Strategic Innovation: The Information School offers a specialization in information innovation and organizational change in conjunction with the School of Business graduate/professional certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/management-human-resources/strategic-innovation-technology-organizations-society-graduate-professional-certificate/) which can be completed as part of the school’s MA degree (on-campus program only).

Certificate in Leadership: iSchool students can earn the UW–Madison Certificate in Leadership (https://cfli.wisc.edu/leadership-certificate/) as part of their Information School MA degree (on-campus and online programs).

Double degrees: The iSchool offers double degrees with the UW Law School, the School of Music, and the Department of Art History. These require separate admissions and additional coursework. (on-campus program only)

School Library Media Specialist License: The School Library Media Specialist License in the State of Wisconsin is a stand-alone teaching license. The iSchool MA program can be modified to provide candidates with the educational requirements for the license taken in addition to the MA courses. Candidates already holding a valid Wisconsin teaching license can be endorsed for the School Library Media Specialist through the iSchool MA program. UW–Madison is part of the UW System School Library Education Consortium (UWSSLEC), which is a certification-only program. Because each state has its own regulations for teacher licenses, this specialization is available to Wisconsin residents or those who will be working in Wisconsin schools only.

Online students (distance degree option) should note: Specialized courses in art, music, law, and school library media specialist, as well as courses offered outside the Information School that may be part of concentrations, specializations, or double degrees, are generally not available online. For a distance student with academic background in one of these areas, combining the general Information School degree with the specialized background may be the best preparation.

The Information School master’s program is accredited by the American Library Association, recognized by the Wisconsin Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning for certification of public librarians, and recognized by the state’s Department of Public Instruction for preparation of school library media specialists.

ABOUT THE INFORMATION SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The UW–Madison Information School, “the iSchool,” is a professional school offering several degrees and non-credit education that prepare students for careers in the information professions:

• The iSchool MA degree (https://ischool.wisc.edu/programs/ma-library-information-studies/) is a professional master’s that prepares information professionals to work in multiple areas of the information professions, including libraries (public, university and college, youth services, special, and government), archives, digital librarianship
(which includes user experience and data analytics/management), and information organization. Students can tailor their program to include other emphases such as Tribal Libraries, Archives and Museums, social justice, and digital humanities.

- The Capstone Certificate in User Experience Design (https://ischool.wisc.edu/programs/uxcapstone/) is an educational credential aimed at working adults who seek further education to advance their careers or move into new fields without the commitment of a full master’s degree. See the Capstone Certificate Guide page here (http://guide.wisc.edu/nondegree/capstone/user-experience-design-capstone-certificate/).

- The PhD degree (https://ischool.wisc.edu/programs/phd-program/) provides advanced academic preparation for those wishing to pursue careers in academia, industrial research, or policymaking. See the PhD Guide page here (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/information/information-phd/).

- The Undergraduate Digital Studies Certificate (https://ischool.wisc.edu/programs/undergraduateldigital-studies/) provides undergraduate coursework in information technologies and society and information management. See the Undergraduate Certificate Guide page here (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/communication-arts/digital-studies-certificate/).

- The iSchool offers non-credit continuing education short courses (https://ischool.wisc.edu/continuing-education/) that help information professionals stay up to date.

**COMMUNITY**

The Information School at UW–Madison is well known for its public-good, community-engagement orientation (https://ischool.wisc.edu/slis/community-engagement/). It is home to student organizations that shepherd information-justice projects including the Jail Library Group, the Tribal Library Archives and Museums Group, and the KidsLit and Beyond Group. Student groups at the iSchool (https://ischool.wisc.edu/current-students/slis-student-organizations/) are very active and organize and sponsor events.

The iSchool Library, (https://www.library.wisc.edu/ischool/) whose windows overlook the shores of Lake Mendota and the oak trees of Muir Knoll, is a very popular campus space for study, group work, social events, and relaxation. The Information School Library is also home to:

- RADD (http://radd.dsalo.info/) “Recovering Analog and Digital Data” equipment for audio/video digitization and digital-data rescue that provides fee-for-service recovery of data from a wide variety of media types.

**RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP**

The Information School faculty are known for scholarly work in the areas of:

- Data and information policy and ethics
- User behaviors and literacies
- Print culture
- Library and information technology history
- Electronic publishing
- Information and communications technologies (ICT) and development, and transnational diaspora use of ICT
- The social aspects of ICT
- Medical information and medical information technologies
- Youth and new media

For more information, see the iSchool Research Overview Page. (https://ischool.wisc.edu/faculty-staff-directory/research/)

**RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS**

Faculty and staff are widely involved in different research groups on campus. For example, the iSchool is home to the Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture (http://www.wisprintdigital.org/), a research center focused on authorship, reading, publication, and distribution of print and digital materials. The Information School faculty members are involved with the Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies, the Digital Humanities Research Network, the HCI+Design Group, the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, and the Center for Financial Security.

**ADMISSIONS**

**ADMISSIONS**

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet the minimum requirements** (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/) of the **Graduate School as well as the program(s)**. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Deadline</td>
<td>December 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the spring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)</td>
<td>Not required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Proficiency Test</td>
<td>Every applicant whose native language is not English, or whose undergraduate instruction was not exclusively in English, must provide an English proficiency test score earned within two years of the anticipated term of enrollment. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Requirements for Admission policy: <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/</a> (<a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/</a>).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT) | n/a |
| Letters of Recommendation Required | 3 |

The school admits students to its on campus and online master’s programs once a year, for fall semester. Priority consideration, including consideration for departmental scholarships, is given to applications
received by the fall deadline. Applications are accepted until March 1.
After March 1, interested applicants should contact the department to ask if a late application can still be considered.

For more information on the Information School MA program, including detailed admissions instructions, read the program admission page.

The Graduate School requires a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution, or a comparable degree from an international institution. A minimum undergraduate grade-point average (GPA) of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) in the last 60 earned credit hours is required.

Application evaluation criteria include academic abilities, professional promise, leadership and community engagement. An undergraduate program that includes breadth in liberal arts and sciences is required. Any major is acceptable. Prior work experience related to information professions is useful but is not required.

**FUNDING**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements, in addition to the program requirements listed below.

**NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS**

**MODE OF INSTRUCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Core</th>
<th>Tier Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)</th>
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<td>Face to Face</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
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**Mode of Instruction Definitions**

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

**Evening/Weekend:** Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

**Face-to-Face:** Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

**Hybrid:** These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

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**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.
LIS 640  Topics in Library and Information Studies (Services to Diverse Populations)

LIS 640  Topics in Library and Information Studies (Tribal Libraries Archives and Museums)

**Tier Management**

*Choose one of the following courses (3 credits):*

- LIS 654  Information Services Management
- LIS 712  The Public Library
- LIS 722  College and University Libraries

**Tier Technology**

*Choose one of the following courses (3 credits):*

- LIS 644  Digital Tools, Trends and Debates
- LIS 640  Topics in Library and Information Studies (Web Development)
- LIS 668  Digital Curation and Collections
- LIS 751  Database Design for Information Professionals
- LIS 768  Digital Humanities Analytics
- L/S/CURRIC/ED PSYCH 803  Computational Research Methods

**Tier LIS Fundamentals**

*Choose two of the following courses (6 credits):*

- LIS 615  Systems Analysis and Project Management for Information Professionals
- LIS 632  Metadata Standards and XML
- LIS 635  Reference and Information Service
- LIS 639  Pedagogical Theory and Practice for Information Professionals
- LIS 651  Cataloging and Classification
- LIS 655  Collection Management
- L/S/HISTORY 734  Introduction to Archives and Records Management

**Capstone**

- LIS/CURRIC 620 Field Project in Library and Information Agencies

**PLO Assessment**

*Students are required to complete a PLO Assessment prior to graduation. This is a non-credit bearing requirement.*

**Electives**

Suggested courses below are based on potential concentrations. Students do not declare concentrations and may mix and match courses across areas. Students may take up to 6 credits of electives outside of the iSchool. All non-LIS electives must be approved by the student's advisor.

**Digital Librarship**

- LIS 646  Introduction to Info Architecture and Interaction Design for the Web
- LIS 615  Systems Analysis and Project Management for Information Professionals

**Code and Power**

- LIS 500  Code and Power
- LIS 639  Pedagogical Theory and Practice for Information Professionals
- LIS 751  Database Design for Information Professionals
- LIS 668  Digital Curation and Collections
- LIS 640  Topics in Library and Information Studies (Web Development)
- LIS 768  Digital Humanities Analytics
- LIS 461  Surveillance, Privacy, and Police Powers
- LIS 461  Data and Algorithms: Ethics and Policy
- LIS 510  Human Factors in Information Security
- LIS 661  Information Ethics and Policy

**Archives/Records**

- L/S/HISTORY 734  Introduction to Archives and Records Management
- LIS 616  Records Management
- LIS 818  Archives Accessioning and Appraisal
- LIS 640  Topics in Library and Information Studies (Description and Arrangement)
- LIS 678  Preservation and Conservation of Library and Archives Materials
- LIS 615  Systems Analysis and Project Management for Information Professionals
- LIS 632  Metadata Standards and XML
- LIS 651  Cataloging and Classification
- LIS 751  Database Design for Information Professionals

**Public**

- LIS 712  The Public Library
- LIS 635  Reference and Information Service
- LIS 651  Cataloging and Classification
- LIS 655  Collection Management
- LIS 639  Pedagogical Theory and Practice for Information Professionals
- L/S/NURSING/OCC THER 517  Digital Health: Information and Technologies Supporting Consumers and Patients

**Youth**

- LIS 640  Topics in Library and Information Studies (Services to Diverse Populations)
- LIS 642  Reading Interests of Adults
- LIS 755  Electronic Resource Management & Licensing
- LIS 668  Digital Curation and Collections
- LIS 661  Information Ethics and Policy
- LIS 632  Metadata Standards and XML

- LIS 622  Childrens Literature
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIS 629</td>
<td>Multicultural Literature and Resources for Children and Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 631</td>
<td>Literature and Resources for Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 772</td>
<td>Library Services to Children and Young Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 639</td>
<td>Pedagogical Theory and Practice for Information Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 668</td>
<td>Digital Curation and Collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 755</td>
<td>Electronic Resource Management &amp; Licensing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 661</td>
<td>Information Ethics and Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 655</td>
<td>Collection Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 635</td>
<td>Reference and Information Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIS 632</td>
<td>Metadata Standards and XML</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**College and Research Libraries**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIS 722</td>
<td>College and University Libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 639</td>
<td>Pedagogical Theory and Practice for Information Professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>LIS 755</td>
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</table>

**Additional Courses**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIS 640</td>
<td>Topics in Library and Information Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 855</td>
<td>Topics in Information Agency Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 501</td>
<td>Introduction to Text Mining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS/HISTORY 569</td>
<td>History of American Librarianship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L IS/MUSIC 619</td>
<td>Music Research Methods and Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS/ART HIST/ HISTORY/JOURN 650</td>
<td>History of Books and Print Culture in Europe and North America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 652</td>
<td>XML and Linked Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 658</td>
<td>Publishing, Knowledge Institutions and Society: E-Revolutions?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS/LEGAL ST 663</td>
<td>Introduction to Cyberlaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS/COM ARTS 705</td>
<td>Introductory Analytics for Decision Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 706</td>
<td>Data Mining Planning and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 707</td>
<td>Data Visualization and Communication for Decision Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 820</td>
<td>Topics in Community Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 822</td>
<td>Information Use and Users</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIS 826</td>
<td>Field Project in Library and Information Literacy Instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 839</td>
<td>Special Collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 875</td>
<td>Topics in Information Processing and Retrieval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIS 879</td>
<td>Digital Libraries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One credit courses are offered every semester under a variety of topics under LIS 640 and LIS 855.

**Total Credits** 36

**Policies**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES**

The Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

**NAMED OPTION-SPECIFIC POLICIES**

**PRIOR COURSEWORK**

**Graduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions**

Students may transfer up to 6 credits of approved graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**Undergraduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions or UW–Madison**

With approval, UW–Madison undergraduates accepted into the Information School program may transfer up to 7 graduate iSchool credits (LIS 400 and above) toward their MA degree.

**Credits Earned as a Professional Student at UW–Madison (Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary careers)**

Refer to the Graduate School: Transfer Credits for Prior Coursework (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/) policy.

**Credits Earned as a University Special Student at UW–Madison**

Students are allowed to transfer up to 6 approved credits of coursework numbered 400 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**PROBATION**

Refer to the Graduate School: Probation (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/) policy and iSchool Student Handbook. (https://ischool.wisc.edu/current-students/ma-requirements-overview/ma-program-planning-guides/)

**ADVISOR / COMMITTEE**

All continuing students are encouraged to meet with their advisor prior to registering for each semester in order to remove registration holds and ensure timely progress towards degree completion. Students may switch advisors at any time by completing a change of advisor form.
CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED
The iSchool recommends 9 credits per semester and a maximum of 4 credits per summer term. 8 to 12 credits in a regular semester is considered full time at the graduate level. Course load maximums are 12 credits in a regular semester, 8 credits in the summer term and 3 credits in the intersession.

TIME LIMITS
The maximum period for completion of the MA (under special circumstances) is seven calendar years. Contact the department for more information.

Refer to the Graduate School: Time Limits (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/) policy.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS
These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

• Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
• Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
• Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  • Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/)
• Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
• Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
• Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departamental or school/college grievance decisions)
• Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
• Office Student Assistance and Support (OSAS) (https://osas.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
• Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
• Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
• Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

OTHER
n/a