

# LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES, SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE

The Specialist Certificate is only available to students who have been admitted to, and are registered for courses in, the iSchool Ph.D. program (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/information/library-information-studies-phd>). It is an alternative degree for iSchool Ph.D. students who choose not to complete the full requirements for the Ph.D. program. Current Ph.D. students interested in the Specialist Certificate option should discuss it with their major advisor or the Ph.D. program advisor.

## ADMISSIONS

It is not possible to apply directly to the Specialist Certificate. The Specialist Certificate is only available to students who have been admitted to, and who are making progress toward, the iSchool Ph.D. program.

## FUNDING

## GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (<https://grad.wisc.edu/funding>) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

## REQUIREMENTS

### MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

#### MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

#### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Evening/Weekend:** These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Online:** These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules.

Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**Hybrid:** These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Accelerated:** These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

## CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

### Requirements Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement 42 credits

Minimum Residence Credit Requirement 24 credits

Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement Half of degree coursework must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (<http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle>). All coursework must be above 300 level and may not include iSchool undergraduate coursework.

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement 3.00 GPA required.

Other Grade Requirements n/a

Assessments and Examinations The candidate is required to prepare and publicly defend a major project/paper in addition to completing credit hour requirements.

Language Requirements No language requirements unless assigned by program.

## REQUIRED COURSES

- For a Ph.D. student to move to the Specialist Certificate, they must have completed 42 credits toward their Ph.D. degree; 24 of those must be graduate credits completed after admission to the Information School Ph.D. program. All coursework must comply with Graduate School minimum requirements.
- Up to half of the credits should be from academic units related to the student's specialization (including but not limited to the iSchool).
- The candidate is required to prepare and publicly defend a major project/paper in addition to completing credit hour requirements.
- Students may count up to 10 credits of graduate coursework from an iSchool M.A. degree.

## POLICIES

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

## PEOPLE

**Faculty:** Professors Eschenfelder, Downey, Kim (Interim Director), Arnott-Smith, Whitmire; Associate Professors Rubel, Willett; Assistant Professors Royston, Senchyne

For a complete faculty/staff directory see <https://ischool.wisc.edu/>