

## **Academic Libraries Pathway**

A specialization within the Master of Library and Information Science Program  
St. Catherine University

Updated: Spring 2016

### **Introduction**

Academic librarians typically work in the libraries and research centers of higher education institutions, including community colleges, technical institutes, undergraduate and graduate colleges and universities and large research universities. The primary mission of most academic libraries is to advance the teaching, learning and research programs of the institution. Depending on the policies of the institution, a librarian may be hired for a tenure-track or academic staff position. Academic librarians usually have professional responsibilities in one or more of the following areas: reference and instruction, collection development and management, electronic resources management, access services, cataloging and classification, information systems and special collections. Issues of particular interest to academic librarians include information literacy, distance learning, scholarly communication, digital resources and preservation.

Useful sources for information about academic librarianship are the web sites of the Association of College and Research Libraries (<http://www.ala.org/acrl>) and the Association of Research Libraries (<http://www.arl.org>).

### **Competencies**

The competencies that an academic librarian should possess and exercise mirror those of other librarians, but particular emphasis should be given to the design and delivery of instruction, the application of information technologies in academic environments, management and preservation of research materials and an understanding of the research process.

### **Courses**

#### **Generalist:**

Core Requirements: (for students entering program after Spring 2015)

- LIS 7010 Introduction to Library and Information Science
- LIS 7030 Organization of Knowledge
- LIS 7040 Information Access Services
- LIS 7050 Research Methods
- LIS 7700 Management of Libraries and Information Centers

Core Requirements: (for students who entered the program Fall 2011 to Spring 2015)

- LIS 7010 Introduction to Library and Information Science
- LIS 7030 Organization of Knowledge
- LIS 7040 Information Access Services
- LIS 7050 Research Methods
- LIS 7700 Management of Libraries and Information Centers
- LIS 7790 Touchstone
- LIS 8990 Capstone

Highly Recommended Courses:

LIS 7270 Information Literacy in the Digital Age  
LIS 7480 Collection Management  
LIS 7530 Internet Fundamentals and Design  
LIS 7550 Information Policy  
LIS 7570 Electronic Resource Management  
LIS 7590 Digital Libraries  
LIS 7640 Information Literacy Instruction  
LIS 7720 Academic Libraries  
LIS 7920 Information Seeking Behavior  
LIS 7993 Practicum

Recommended to Choose One:

\*LIS 7400 Reference Sources in the Humanities  
\*LIS 7410 Reference Sources in the Social Sciences  
\*LIS 7420 Reference Sources in the Sciences  
\*LIS 7430 Reference Sources in Business and Economics  
LIS 7440 Government Information Resources  
LIS 7450 Searching Electronic Databases  
LIS 7810 Reference Sources in Health Science  
LIS 7870 Legal Information Sources

\*FYI: The curriculum is in transition regarding reference sources courses.

Alternative Courses:

LIS 7160 Leadership in Theory and Practice  
LIS 7510 Database Management  
LIS 7680 Library and Emerging Technologies  
LIS 7970 Web Usability/Accessibility

**Emphasis in Public Services/Reference/Instruction:**

Highly Recommended Courses:

LIS 7270 Information Literacy in the Digital Age  
LIS 7480 Collection Management  
LIS 7530 Internet Fundamentals and Design  
LIS 7640 Information Literacy Instruction  
LIS 7720 Academic Libraries  
LIS 7993 Practicum

Recommended to Choose Two:

\*LIS 7400 Reference Sources in the Humanities  
\*LIS 7410 Reference Sources in the Social Sciences  
\*LIS 7420 Reference Sources in the Sciences  
\*LIS 7430 Reference Sources in Business and Economics  
LIS 7440 Government Information Resources

- LIS 7450 Searching Electronic Databases
- LIS 7810 Reference Sources in Health Science
- LIS 7870 Legal Information Sources
- LIS 7920 Information Seeking Behavior

\*FYI: The curriculum is in transition regarding reference sources courses.

**Emphasis in Technical Services/Cataloging/Systems:**

Highly Recommended Courses:

- LIS 7300 Cataloging and Classification
- LIS 7480 Collection Management
- LIS 7530 Internet Fundamentals and Design
- LIS 7590 Digital Libraries
- LIS 7720 Academic Libraries
- LIS 7993 Practicum
- LIS 8820 Metadata for Internet Resources

Recommended to Choose One or Two:

- LIS 7370 Online Information Systems
- LIS 7450 Searching Electronic Databases
- LIS 7500 Information Storage and Retrieval
- LIS 7510 Database Management
- LIS 7520 Networks
- LIS 7540 Information Systems Analysis and Design
- LIS 7570 Electronic Resources Management

**Emphasis in Administration/Leadership:**

Highly Recommended Courses:

- LIS 7160 Leadership in Theory and Practice
- LIS 7480 Collection Management
- LIS 7550 Information Policy
- LIS 7590 Digital Libraries
- LIS 7610 Public Relations
- LIS 7690 Information Technology, People and Society
- LIS 7720 Academic Libraries
- LIS 7993 Practicum

Recommended to Choose One:

- LIS 7570 Electronic Resources Management
- LIS 7640 Information Literacy Instruction
- LIS 7920 Information Seeking Behavior