

**Information Science and Digital Libraries Pathway**  
**A specialization within the Master of Library and Information Science degree**  
**St. Catherine University**

Updated Spring 2017

The Information science (IS)/ Digital libraries (DL) specialization will help students prepare themselves to be successful information professionals who work in various information intense industries as well as in the fast transitioning library settings of all types, which include academic/ research institutions, special collections/ archives, cultural heritage organizations and other information centers. The core knowledge and skills in this specialization center understanding the characteristics of digital information services and the social and technological issues of managing digital data/information in the networked environment along with the user experience design and user need. The competency in addition to the foundational LIS knowledge includes: 1) critically examining information technologies in relation to people, community, institution and society; 2) evaluating their impact on community, organization or society; 3) identifying new emerging issues involving information technologies; and 4) facilitating access to, organization of, creation of and sharing information through information technologies.

Recommended courses are under three specific sub-focii: (1) Digital Libraries and Digital Resource Management; (2) Strategic Information/Knowledge Management; and (3) User Experience Design.

**Required Courses**

In addition to the following core requirements, all students are required to complete a non-credit-bearing ePortfolio for graduation.

Core Requirements:

- 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

**Digital Libraries and Digital Resource Management**

Comprised of digital collections, services, and infrastructure, digital libraries are not only repositories for digital information but also all of the associated technologies and human expertise needed to take full advantage of digital resources. The area of practice is found not only in the traditional library settings of academic, public and special libraries and archives but beyond the libraries with the various job titles; digital librarian, metadata librarian, digital asset specialist, digital archives and collection specialist.

Courses recommended:

- o LIS 7530 Internet Fundamentals and Design
- o LIS 7590 Digital Libraries

- LIS 8820 Metadata for Internet Resources
- LIS 7500 Information Seeking and Retrieval
- LIS 7680 Libraries and Emerging Technologies
- LIS 7690 Information Technology, People and Society
- LIS 7550 Information Policy
- LIS 7920 Human Information Behavior
- LIS 7970 Web Usability/Accessibility
- LIS 7270 Information Literacy in the Digital Age

### **Strategic Information/Knowledge Management**

The focus of this specialization is on a variety of organizational activities to acquire, manage, and use information for strategic and competitive intelligence. It involves practical knowledge of management of work practices and development and maintenance of information systems, taxonomy development, text-based information processing such as information retrieval, text mining and visualization. Some of the job titles include chief information specialist, strategic knowledge manager, knowledge architect, taxonomists, and data/ database analyst.

Courses recommended:

- LIS 7500 Information Seeking and Retrieval
- LIS 7510 Database Management
- LIS 7520 Networks
- LIS 7530 Internet Fundamentals and Design
- LIS 7540 System Analysis and Design
- LIS 8800 Knowledge Management
- LIS 8840 Competitive Intelligence
- LIS 7740 Special Libraries
- LIS 7590 Digital Libraries
- LIS 7690 Information Technology, People and Society
- LIS 7550 Information Policy
- LIS 7920 Human Information Behavior

### **User Experience Design**

Information services through information systems and digital network need ensuring information provided effectively to the end user in the process. User experience design is the area where information products and services such as websites, system's interfaces and other interactive devices created and presented with an emphasis on usability and user-centered design perspective. The related careers include usability/UX librarian, UX designer, web designer/ librarian, systems librarian, and HCI interaction specialist.

Courses recommended:

- LIS 7530 Internet Fundamentals and Design
- LIS 7970 Web Usability/Accessibility
- LIS 7680 Libraries and Emerging Technologies
- LIS 7920 Human Information Behavior

- LIS 7580 Making and Maker Space
- LIS 7500 Information Seeking and Retrieval
- LIS 7590 Digital Libraries
- LIS 7540 System Analysis and Design