Information Literacy and User Education Pathway
A specialization within the Master of Library and Information Science Program
St. Catherine University

Updated: Spring 2016

Introduction

The specialization focuses on information literacy and user education. Promoting and teaching information literacy is one of the core responsibilities of user services librarians. The complexity of Web information requires users to develop new knowledge, skills and strategies for making appropriate information decisions. As libraries continue to increase their role as facilitators of learning in the constantly changing digital environments, librarians’ expertise of information literacy and user education is becoming increasingly important.

To pursue a specialization in information literacy and user education, students are recommended to complete the following courses:

Courses

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 7530 Internet Fundamentals & Design
- LIS 7620 Literacy and Community Engagement
- LIS 7640 Information Literacy Instruction
- LIS 7920 Information Seeking Behavior

Relevant Electives:
- LIS 7450 Searching Electronic Databases
- LIS 7680 Libraries & Emerging Technologies
- LIS 7970 Web Usability/Accessibility
- LIS 7993 Practicum
Useful Resources for Information Literacy

The Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) have established the following standards and guidelines for information literacy:

Characteristics of Programs of Information Literacy That Illustrate Best Practices:
http://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/characteristics

Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education at
http://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/informationliteracycompetency


Careers

Instructional librarian
Information literacy coordinator
Reference librarian
Subject specialist
Academic librarian
Public librarian
Outreach librarian

Also see: Youth Services, Academic Libraries, Public Libraries and User Services Pathways.