School of Library and Information Sciences

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Samantha Hastings, Interim Dean
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Faculty

Introduction
The School of Library and Information Sciences prepares graduates for significant roles in the information age. The school offers programs of study leading to the Bachelor of Science, the Master of Science and the post-master’s Certificate of Advanced Study. The school also participates in an interdisciplinary doctoral program in information sciences offered through the Center for Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies of the School of Graduate Studies. Special certification also is available in school librarianship and learning resources, youth librarianship, storytelling and advanced management.

The bachelor’s degree, emphasizing general educational preparation, represents a first step in preparing students for careers as information professionals. By combining a major in information sciences with an area of special interest in the context of new information technologies, students may be qualified for a variety of positions in information centers, bibliographic utilities and networks, information industry companies, and specialized publishing, abstracting and indexing services.

Students intent upon careers as information professionals should be prepared to undertake an additional year of study to earn the master’s degree. It is the master’s degree that is recognized as the basic professional degree and that is normally required for professional positions and continuing advancement in the field. The master’s degree may be completed on a part-time basis, during which students may be employed in paraprofessional or other positions.

Early Graduate Study
Qualified undergraduate students may be admitted to graduate study during their final undergraduate term/semester to take graduate credit courses not required to complete a bachelor’s degree.

Academic Advising
Advisement on courses, programs and related questions is available through the school office, Information Sciences Building, Room 205. All students should contact the school for advisement before
registering for classes. Calls and visits by prospective students also are welcomed anytime from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Programs of Study

The school offers the following degrees:
• Bachelor of Science with a major in information science;
• Master of Science with majors in information science and library science; and
• Doctor of Philosophy with a major in information science.

Students interested in a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree with an occupational specialization in either legal information management or health information management should see the College of Public Affairs and Community Service section in this catalog.

Bachelor of Science

The bachelor’s degree program requires a major in the School of Library and Information Sciences and a minor in another field. Students should have a degree plan prepared no later than the beginning of their junior year.

Students must meet all general requirements for admission to undergraduate study as stated in the Admissions section of this catalog. To enroll for more than 6 hours of courses in the school, students must (a) have at least sophomore standing and (b) have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5. At least junior standing is required to enroll for more than 12 hours in the school.

Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Bachelor of Science with a major in information science must meet the following requirements:

1. **Hours for the Degree:** A minimum of 128 total semester hours, including at least 42 advanced hours.
2. **General University Requirements:** See “General Degree Requirements” in the Academics section of this catalog.
3. **University Core Curriculum:** See “University Core Curriculum Requirements” in the Academics section of this catalog.
4. **Arts and Sciences Degree Requirements:** See additional requirements specified for the Bachelor of Science in the College of Arts and Sciences section of this catalog.
5. **Major Requirements:** Major of at least 24 hours, including 9 hours of required courses (SLIS 4000, 4200 and 4600, or the equivalents) and at least 15 additional hours selected with approval of the school.
6. **Minor:** Minor of at least 18 hours, including at least 6 advanced hours, in an approved field outside the school.
7. **Electives:** 35 hours.
8. **Other Requirements:** A minimum grade point average of 2.5 is required on all courses counted toward this major.

Graduate Study

For information on graduate study, consult the Graduate Catalog.

Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in one section at the back of this catalog.

Course and Subject Guide

The “Course and Subject Guide,” found in the Courses of Instruction section of this book, serves as a table of contents and provides quick access to subject areas and prefixes.