MLIS Master of Library and Information Science

The Library and Information Science (LIS) Program contributes to the essential knowledge, skills, and values of librarianship and the information professions through research, education, and outreach. Our Program offers the only Master's Degree in the state of Missouri that is accredited by the American Library Association (ALA). ALA's initial accreditation was granted in 1966/67, and the program was given continued accreditation in 2015.

The MLIS can be completed online. A few courses may be offered on-site as well, in one of four locations:

- Columbia, Missouri
- Kansas City, Missouri
- St. Louis, Missouri
- Omaha, Nebraska

We use several different course structures to provide you with the broadest and most instructionally appropriate class opportunities.

- Online asynchronous classes allow you to participate anytime, anywhere.
- Online synchronous classes, scheduled at fixed times to allow online, offer real-time interaction without the drive time.
- Hybrid classes, combine face-to-face and online instruction.

Most library and information science faculty are based in Columbia. Clinical faculty in St. Louis and Kansas City, and a Program Liaison in Omaha, NE provide student support and coordinate extracurricular activities.

The MLIS comes with an emphasis in Library Media Specialist, Certification. Additional details are found on the emphasis page.

Degree Requirements

The program consists of 39 credit hours, including 18 credits of required courses. Each student completes a practicum (two to three credits). Elective courses are selected in consultation with faculty advisers. The program of study must include 15 credit hours of 9000-level courses, and 12 hours of courses taught by a full-time faculty member.