

MLIS in 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 (<https://education.missouri.edu/information-science-learning-technologies/academics/>) in the state of Missouri that is accredited (<https://www.ala.org/cfapps/lisdir/>) by the American Library Association (ALA) (<https://www.ala.org/>). ALA's initial accreditation was granted in 1966/67, and the program was given continued accreditation in 2015.

The MLIS can be completed online.

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.

Most library and information science faculty are based in Columbia. Clinical faculty in Kansas City and a Program Liaison in Omaha, NE provide student support and coordinate extracurricular activities. Students can seek the MLIS with emphasis areas of Archival Science, eLearning Information Professional, or Library Media Specialist, as well as Library Media Specialist with Certification.

Degree Requirements

The program consists of **39 credit hours**, including 18 credits of required courses. Each student completes a practicum (<https://sislt.missouri.edu/lis/practicum/#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.

Required Courses - must be taken prior to eportfolio development

IS_LT 7301	Library and Information Technology	3
or IS_LT 7320	Emerging Technologies in Libraries	
IS_LT 7305	Foundations of Library and Information Science	3
IS_LT 7312	Principles of Cataloging and Classification	3
or IS_LT 7302	Organization of Information	
IS_LT 7313	Collection and Access Management	3
IS_LT 7314	Reference Sources and Services	3
IS_LT 7315	Management of Information Agencies	3

Practicum

(choose one of these, for 2 or 3 credit hours)

IS_LT 7380	School Library Practicum	2-3
or IS_LT 7381	Practicum in Information Agencies	

Elective Courses

(at least 15 hours of 9000 level courses required)

Dual Degree Option: MLIS and MPA in Public Affairs

This online joint degree requires a total of 51 credit hours, including 21 required credit hours for the MLIS program, 18 required credit hours for the MPA program, and 12 credit hours to be shared between the two programs. Applicants to the dual degree program must apply and be admitted to each program individually.

Library & Information Science courses (21 credits)

IS_LT 7301	Library and Information Technology	3
or IS_LT 7320	Emerging Technologies in Libraries	
IS_LT 7302	Organization of Information	3
or IS_LT 7312	Principles of Cataloging and Classification	
IS_LT 7305	Foundations of Library and Information Science	3
IS_LT 7313	Collection and Access Management	3
IS_LT 7314	Reference Sources and Services	3
IS_LT 7315	Management of Information Agencies	3
IS_LT 7381	Practicum in Information Agencies	2-3

Public Affairs courses (18 credit hours)

PUB_AF 8110	Introduction to Public and Nonprofit Management	3
PUB_AF 8170	Public Policy Processes and Strategies	3
PUB_AF 8180	Research Methods and Inquiry in Public Affairs I	3
PUB_AF 8181	Research Methods and Inquiry in Public Affairs II	3
PUB_AF 8210	Public Service and Democracy	3
PUB_AF 8520	Human Resources Management and Development in Public and Nonprofit Sector	3

Select 2 additional courses from each program for a total of 12 credit hours

PUB_AF 8720	Budgeting and Financial Management in the Nonprofit Sector	3
PUB_AF 8510	Public Budgeting and Taxation	3
PUB_AF 7540	Local Government Management	3
PUB_AF 8530	Strategic Management of Public Service Organizations: People, Information and Money	3
PUB_AF 8830	Grant Writing I	3
IS_LT 9408	Information Policy	3
IS_LT 9413	Electronic Resource Management	3
IS_LT 9012	Public Library Community Partnerships	3
IS_LT 9453	Leadership and Planning in Information Agencies	3
IS_LT 9443	The Academic Library	3
or IS_LT 9444	The Public Library	

Graduate Examination Process

In your final semester, you will develop and present a portfolio of your work to demonstrate your mastery of the LIS Student Learning Outcomes (<https://education.missouri.edu/information-science-learning-technologies/degrees-programs/library-information-science/#outcomes>). The portfolio contains descriptions of competencies and what they mean to you, explanations of artifacts, and reflections. You should start on your portfolio early in your coursework.

Admissions

Email: [sislt@missouri.edu](mailto:sisl@missouri.edu)
SISLT Student Services
304 Townsend Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
Phone: 573-882-4546 or toll free 877-747-5868
<https://education.missouri.edu/information-science-learning-technologies/degrees-programs/library-information-science/>

Applicants are required to meet two sets of minimum qualifications for admission: the minimum requirements of the Master of Library & Information Science program and the minimum requirements of the Graduate School (<https://gradschool.missouri.edu/admissions/eligibility-process/>). Because requirements vary, you *must* refer to a degree program's graduate admission page to learn about specific admission criteria, application deadlines, eligibility and application process. Your application materials will be reviewed by both the Graduate School and the degree program to which you've applied before official admission to the University of Missouri.