**Library and Information Science program**

**Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Program Admission Deadlines:**

**Fall:** June 1

**Spring:** October 15

**Summer**: March 1

**Minimum Total Hours:** 39

**Program Level:** Masters

**CIP Code:** 25.0101

**Dept. Code:** LIS

**Program (Major/College):** LIS AS

**Approved:** 1988

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Arts and Sciences

**Department:** School ofInformation

**Contact Information:** [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu)

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

The mission of the School of Information is to educate students for careers and leadership roles in library and information professions that serve the needs of a culturally diverse, technological society; to contribute to the body of theoretical and applied knowledge in the discipline; and to serve current and emerging needs in the University, the community, and the profession. For Goals, Objectives, and Student Learning Outcomes, refer to the program’s web page.

**Accreditation:**

Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of College and Schools and the American Library Association (ALA). For students interested in School Library Media as a profession, completion of the USF/SLIS program results in (1) a Master of Arts degree accredited by the American Library Association, which will allow the recipient to work in all types of libraries, (2) appropriate coursework for passing the state examination for certification as an Educational Media Specialist for Grades K-12 in the state of Florida. For more information, see <http://si.usf.edu/graduate/programs/media/>

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements listed below.

**Program Admission Requirements**

GRE is required with preferred minimum scores of 71st percentile (550V), 10th percentile (450)Q. However, the LIS program will waive the GRE requirement if the student meets one of the following criteria:

* A 3.50 or higher GPA in a completed master’s degree program from a regionally accredited institution
* A 3.25 or higher GPA in upper division undergraduate work from a regionally accredited institution.
* Doctoral degree (including professional degrees such as the JD and MD) from a regionally accredited institution.

All students not meeting one of the above criteria will be considered for conditional admission based on all of the following criteria:

* + - * A preferred minimum score of 550 on the Verbal section and 450 on the Quantitative section of the General GRE test.
      * An academic writing sample
      * Three written letters of recommendation

1. Conditional admission status will be converted to regular status upon completion of the first three LIS courses with a GPA of 3.50 or above. LIS 5020 must be included as one of these courses.A satisfactory score on the TOEFL (79 on the internet-based test and 550 on the paper-based test) may be required for natives of non-English-speaking countries.
2. All students are required to write a statement describing their purpose and goals in the LIS program

**DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Total Program Hours: 39 credit hours minimum

Core courses – 18 credit hours

Technology Elective – 3 credit hours

Electives – 18 credit hours

Comp Exam/Portfolio

. Students must maintain a 3.00 grade point average of “B” or better and no more than two grades below "B" will be accepted. Transfer credit from other recognized graduate schools is limited to six semester hours taken within the last five years with grades of “B” or better. All transfers must be approved by the candidate’s faculty advisor. Transfer credits must be posted to a student’s permanent record no later than one full term prior to graduation.

**Required Core Courses – 18 credit hours**

**The student must complete the following 39 hour program, including six core courses:**

LIS 5020 3 Foundations of Library and Information Science **OR**

LIS 6260 3 Information Science in Librarianship

LIS 6271 3 Research Methods in Library and Information Science

LIS 6409 3 Introduction to Library Administration

LIS 6511 3 Collection Development and Maintenance

LIS 6603 3 Basic Information Sources and Services

LIS 6711 3 Organization of Knowledge I **OR**

LIS 6735 3 Technical Services in Libraries

**Technology Elective** **- 3 credit hours**

LIS 5268 3 IT Concepts for Information Professionals

For students who already have a foundational understanding of information technology, this course may be substituted by another elective. All students are expected to select courses, in coordination with their advisers, which will foster competencies and understanding of theory, application, and use of technology.

**Electives** - 18 credit hours

These courses must be approved by the student's advisor. Some options include:

LIS 5268 3 Microcomputer Applications Library and Information Centers

LIS 5315 3 Instructional Graphics

LIS 5333 3 TV in Schools and Libraries

LIS 5418 3 Health Informatics for Medical Librarians

LIS 5566 3 Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults

LIS 5937 4 Selected Topics in Library Studies

LIS 6110 3 History of Libraries

LIS 6111 3 History of Children's Literature

LIS 6206 3 Adult Services in Libraries

LIS 6212 3 Reading Guidance Programs in Libraries and Classrooms

LIS 6225 3 Storytelling

LIS 6303 3 Preparing Instructional Media

LIS 6316 3 Visualization of Knowledge

LIS 6402 3 Advanced Library Administration

LIS 6432 3 Seminar in Academic Libraries

LIS 6445 3 Seminar in Public Libraries

LIS 6455 3 Organization and Administration of the School Media Center

LIS 6463 3 Library Networks and Systems

LIS 6464 3 Library Systems Analysis and Planning

LIS 6472 3 Seminar in Special Libraries

LIS 6473 3 Law Librarianship

LIS 6475 3 Health Sciences Librarianship

LIS 6773 3 Digital Curation

LIS 6482 3 Web Archiving

LIS 6542 3 The Curriculum and Instructional Technology

LIS 6565 3 Books and Related Materials for Young Adults

LIS 6585 3 Materials for Children

LIS 6609 3 Online Information Sources and Services

LIS 6610 3 Information Sources and Services in the Humanities

LIS 6620 3 Information Sources and Services in the Social Sciences

LIS 6624 3 Information Sources and Services in Business and Law

LIS 6630 3 Information Sources and Services in Science and Technology

LIS 6661 3 Government Documents

LIS 6724 3 Classification and Cataloging of Non-Book Materials

LIS 6726C 3 Indexing and Abstracting

LIS 6712 3 Organization of Knowledge II

LIS 6514 3 Digital Libraries

LIS 6906 3 Independent Study

LIS 6946 3 Supervised Fieldwork

LIS 6949 2-6 Practicum in Archives and Special Collections

**Courses Outside the School**

Degree-seeking students are permitted to enroll in courses, usually limited to six semester hours, outside the School of Information when, in the context of the development of a purposeful program, an interdisciplinary approach seems appropriate. Students must obtain the prior approval of their Faculty advisor.

**Culminating Assessment**

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**Comprehensive Examination**

**Portfolio**

Assessment of Competencies for the Master’s Degree in Library and Information Science ‐ In Lieu of a Comprehensive Examination, students admitted beginning in the Fall 2015 Catalog Year are required to submit a portfolio in accordance with program provided guidelines which exhibit competencies acquired during their master’s program based on standards of the American Library Association.

Portfolio timeline: Students will begin creating and collecting artifacts and other examples of work beginning in their first semester of study. Portfolios must be reviewed by an advisor or other program designee midway through the student’s program and then submitted prior to graduation according to the program guidelines for final approval as part of graduation requirements.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

ALA-USF, ASIST-USF, and SLA-USF are student chapters of the American Library Association, American Society for Information Science & Technology and Special Libraries Association linked with the School of Information and are open to all members of the University community interested in information science or librarianship. All provide programs and guest speakers of interest to the campus community, maintain several discussion lists, and publish a newsletter for their members. These organizations are the voice of students in the school, and members of the associations are included on committees within the School.

**COURSES**

See <http://www.ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/> or <http://si.usf.edu/>