ABOUT THE M.S. IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Information professionals know—or know where to find—almost anything about nearly everything. They are collaborative, analytical, creative, ethical, flexible, discrete, and diplomatic. Many hold advanced degrees in other fields and speak second or even third languages. As a result, they understand the information needs of those they serve and support.

As information systems become more technological and complex, demand for these professionals is on the rise, and St. John’s 36-credit American Library Association (ALA)-accredited graduate program in Library and Information Science (LIS) offers a variety of concentrations and degree options that reflect the diversity of the LIS field. You can pursue concentrations in law, public, academic, youth services, archive, and special librarianship, as well as information analysis.

Program offerings are flexible in order to meet the needs of working professionals. The program is offered fully online.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH AN M.S. IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE?

You graduate from the library and information science program with a rich and varied skill set that includes research, records management, web design, and organizational management. You are able to identify information needs; find resources to meet those needs; and collect, manage, and analyze data. All of these qualities make library and information science graduates attractive to a wide range of employers.

Recent alumni of the library and information science program at St. John’s have secured positions in the following fields:

- Archives, museums, and record centers
- Financial services
- Government agencies
- Public libraries
- Higher education/corporate training
- Hospital/medical pharmaceutical libraries
- Law libraries
- Market research
- Publishing and broadcast management
- Risk management
MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The M.S. in Library and Information Science program is one of the most valuable graduate programs of its kind. Our graduates are assets to their employers and make a positive contribution to society as a whole. We are selective in admissions, so our classes are small and highly interactive. Our faculty members are committed to helping you prepare for this dynamic profession. As a student, you enjoy the academic resources of a leading Catholic university along with the advantages of studying in New York City, with its renowned libraries, archives, and museums, and corporate, nongovernmental organization, and public information centers. We welcome your interest and encourage you to join us.

James Vorbach, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Director, Library and Information Science
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RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

You have opportunities to design websites for nonprofits, present research papers at international conferences, and publish articles in professional and trade journals. You may work with faculty on research, exploring trends in the library and information science field, or present your own research at department symposiums each semester. You build electronic portfolios to showcase your work to prospective employers after graduation.

You are also encouraged to participate in professional associations—including the American Library Association, the Association of American Law Libraries, the Progressive Librarians Guild, and the Special Libraries Association—to build networks and to stay abreast of trends and key issues in this rapidly evolving field.

Credit-bearing internships are encouraged for all students and are required for some concentrations. Recent internship placements include the Brooklyn Public Library, Dahesh Museum of Art, Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, Leonard Lief Library, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, New York Law School, Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library, Poet’s House, Scholastic Press, and Queens Public Library.

ASSISTANTSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FINANCIAL AID

The Division of Library and Information Science offers the Rev. Brian J. O’Connell, C.M., Scholarship to high-achieving applicants who earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) for their most recent degree. Qualified incoming students do not need to apply separately for this scholarship, but are automatically granted a partial tuition reprieve.

The University awards a limited number of graduate assistantships to highly qualified students each year. These positions provide tuition remission and/or a stipend. For more information about assistantships, scholarships, and other types of financial aid, please see the Graduate Bulletin (www.stjohns.edu/bulletin).