ABOUT THESE COMBINED DEGREE PROGRAMS

In an increasingly global marketplace, professionals with command of multiple languages and cultures and the ability to effectively access information are well-positioned for success. The combination of an undergraduate degree in French, Spanish, or Italian and an American Library Association (ALA) accredited master’s degree in Library and Information Science will allow you to develop the linguistic, cultural, and knowledge management skills to succeed in international careers. And because you’ll earn both degrees within five years of full-time study thanks to this combined degree program, you’ll save time and money on your education.

You should apply to this combined degree program in your second semester of sophomore year. Admission requirements include a 3.0 GPA for at least 60 credits overall, and a 3.0 GPA for at least 12 credits in your major. In your junior year, you’ll begin taking graduate courses in the Library and Information Science master’s program, completing the required courses LIS 203, LIS 204, LIS 205, and LIS 239 by the time you graduate with your bachelor’s degree. In your fifth year of full-time graduate study, you’ll take LIS 240 and 21 additional credits in library and information science to complete the M.S. degree.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A B.A. IN FRENCH, SPANISH, OR ITALIAN AND AN M.S. IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE?

The combination of a bachelor’s degree in French, Spanish, or Italian and a master’s degree in Library and Information Science will provide you with a broad and diverse range of career options. You are prepared to manage a bilingual or multilingual library, archive, or records center; access information across languages for diverse populations; and help patrons cross linguistic barriers that would otherwise prevent them from accessing information and services. Because being able to speak more than one language is so necessary to participation in both the global arena and our local communities, the need for bilingual and multilingual information professionals is high. You are be well-positioned to meet that need once you complete both your bachelor’s and master’s degrees in one of these combined degree programs.

SOME OF THE CAREERS THAT AWAIT YOU UPON GRADUATION FROM THIS PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- Public librarian serving a multilingual population
- Youth services librarian meeting the needs of diverse students
- Records/information manager for a multinational corporation
- Researcher for both public and private institutions
- Archivist managing materials in two or more languages
B.A./M.S. French, Spanish, or Italian and Library and Information Science

MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE DIRECTOR

Careers in the information professions are growing rapidly, particularly those positions requiring background in languages. In these combined degree programs, students gain fluency in languages and cultures while they also learn to research, manage, and evaluate information. Our graduates are assets to their employers and make positive contributions to society as a whole. Our faculty members are committed to helping students prepare for the dynamic information professions.

As a student, you will enjoy the academic resources of a leading Catholic university along with the advantages of studying in New York City with its renowned libraries, archives, museums, and corporate, NGO, and public information centers. We welcome your interest and encourage you to join us.

James Vorbach, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Director, Division of Library and Information Science
vorbachj@stjohns.edu

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As a French, Spanish, or Italian major, you’ll gain the linguistic and cultural fluency necessary to succeed in both a global marketplace and in diverse local communities.

As a graduate student in the Division of Library and Information Science, you’ll build on these skills with opportunities to present research papers at professional conferences, and publish articles in professional and trade journals. You may work with faculty members on research, exploring trends in the library and information science field, or present your own research at department symposia. We also encourage you to participate in professional associations such as the American Library Association (ALA) and the Special Libraries Association (SLA) to build networks and to stay abreast of trends and key issues in this rapidly evolving field.

Credit-bearing internships are encouraged for all library and information science students. Recent internship placements include Carnegie Hall, the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, the Citi Center for Culture, East End Seaport Museum and Marine Foundation, and the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA).

SCHOLARSHIPS, ASSISTANTSHIPS, AND FINANCIAL AID

St. John’s University strives to place an outstanding higher education within the financial reach of all qualified applicants. For the 2018–2019 academic year, 98 percent of undergraduate students at St. John’s received $524 million in financial assistance through scholarships, loans, grants, and work/study programs. The Office of Undergraduate Admission also awards highly competitive academic scholarships. For more information about other types of financial aid and scholarship awards, please visit www.stjohns.edu/services/financial.

If you finish your B.A. degree with a GPA of 3.4 or higher, you’ll qualify for the Rev. Brian J. O’Connell, C.M. Scholarship in your fifth year of full-time graduate study. You will not need to apply separately for this scholarship and will be automatically granted partial tuition reprieve based on academic merit.

You may also qualify for a graduate assistantship in your fifth year. The University awards a limited number of these positions each year to highly-qualified students. Assistantships provide tuition remission and a stipend in exchange for work that supports the research or administrative functions of the University. For more information about assistantships, please visit the Graduate Admissions web pages at www.stjohns.edu/admission/graduate.

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS

James Vorbach, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Director
Division of Library and Information Science
St. John’s University
8000 Utopia Parkway
Queens, NY 11439
718-990-1834
vorbachj@stjohns.edu