Online MA Information Session Fall 2017

ischool.wisc.edu

Information Session for Perspective Online Students Fall 2017

Agenda

- Introduction to the iSchool
- Program requirements
- Concentration options
- Application requirements
Why the UW-Madison iSchool?

- 125 years old, longstanding program
- Continuously accredited
- Academically rigorous mix of theoretical and practical
- Strong placement rate
- Nationally ranked
- Expanding to meet changing field needs

Why the UW-Madison iSchool?

- Small classes - high interaction with accessible faculty and staff
- Community - bonding with classmates, join student organizations, get involved
- Customizable – flexible curriculum
- Hands on experience – supported work experience in an organization related to your career goals
MA Requirements Overview: 39 credits

**Tier 1: Required Courses**
- Must take all 3

  - 602: Info: Organization & Search (1st semester)
  - 601: Info: Perspectives & Contexts (1st or 2nd semester)
  - 603: Research & Assessment for Info Professionals

**Tier M: Courses**
- Must take at least one

  - LIS 654 Info Services Management (all audiences)
  - LIS 732 Strategic Info Services (non pub academic library/archive settings)
  - LIS 712 Public Library Administration (pub library & youth)

**Tier T: Courses**
- Must take at least one:

  - LIS 500 Code and Power
  - LIS 644 Digital Tools, Trends & Debates
  - LIS 646 Information Architecture (web design)
  - LIS 668 Digital Collections & Curation
  - LIS 751 Database Design

**Online Portfolio**

**Practicum Field-placement**
(3 credits)

**Electives**
(up to 39 credits)

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**MA Concentrations**

Five *concentration areas* at the iSchool:
- Librarianship
- Info Tech & People
- Data/Info Mgmt/Analytics (DIA)
- Organization of Information
- Archives* (campus only)

All students share the same required courses

Concentrations map sheet suggests courses that fulfill requirements and important electives for specific concentrations

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Concentration Area: Librarianship

Support communities and learning and promote access to information.

Career opportunities:
- College and universities
- Public libraries
- Youth librarianship
- Electronic collections management
- Science & health librarianship
- Law librarianship
- Research data management
- School libraries

Example: Dorothy Terry ('13)
Social Work Librarian at University Maryland Baltimore County

Concentration Area: Information Organization

Organize all of the stuff!

Work with the latest information technologies and standards to help solve information overload and increase access to materials.

Career titles: metadata specialists, catalogers, taxonomy and ontology specialists, digital asset managers, XML and linked data specialists, database and data managers.

Amy Sonnichsen ('13)
Metadata Librarian
Getty Research Institute
Los Angeles, California
Concentration Area: 
Data & Information Mgmt./Analytics (DIA)

Work with data and information in educational, nonprofit, government, start up or business settings?

Analyze information and data to contribute to good decision making?

Take advantage of opportunities in the expanding fields of data analytics?

**Career titles:** Data Manager, Digital Asset Manager, Research Analyst/Data Analyst, Evaluation Specialist, Analytics Specialist, Research Data Librarian

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Concentration Area: 
UX and Information Technologies

Are you interested in designing, developing and managing information technologies to solve problems in society?

Would you enjoy a career helping people to use information technologies more effectively?

**Career Titles:** User experience and web design, digital asset management, digital curation, emerging technologies librarian, digital humanities developer, systems analyst, IT training and instruction, academic technology support

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Degree Completion Timing & Length

• 39 credits
  • Part vs full time
    • Part time: min 2 credits per semester, min 4 credits for financial aid
    • Go slow & self-fund
    • “Full time” is 8 credits per semester
  • Typical load:
    • Fall/spring: One or two courses, 3 credits each.
    • Summer: 1-4 credits max unless you do not work at all.
  • Hours of work a week?
    • 1 credit = 3-4 hours per week; 3 credits = 10-12 hours
  • Good academic progress
    • No more than 1 grade of BC or below

Application Requirements

• No GRE required
• Three references:
  • Academic preferred
  • If out of school for > 5 years, min one academic reference
• Reasons for Graduate Study essay:
  • Career goals, reasons for choosing UW-Madison, leadership experience, aspirations
• Transcripts:
  • Upload unofficial copies to application system

We are interested in: Multicultural competencies, STEM background, language skills, community service, job experience, time spent abroad, technology skills etc.
Application Requirements

Admissions deadlines:

• Dec 15 deadline for scholarships
• Feb 1 application deadline to ensure full consideration. Rolling after that date.

Begin process with the Graduate School electronic application
Graduate School’s Electronic Application
• https://apply.grad.wisc.edu

Tuition

How much? Fall semester 2016: $800/credit or $2400 per 3-credit course
Pay by the credit; no plateau
Residency: Admission as an iSchool distance student does not change your residency status. If you are not from WI you remain a non-resident
Funding

FAFSA
• Federal loans and grants
• 4 credit min for financial aid

iSchool Financial Aid
• Just under 50% of the Fall 2015 class had some financial aid from iSchool

Jobs
• Most students work over 20 hours per week.

Travel Awards
• Presenting at professional conferences

Career outlook

Average starting salary is highly variable by career choice and by region of the country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Median Starting Salary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Childrens Services</td>
<td>41,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>YA/Teen</td>
<td>46,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archives</td>
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<td>Communications/PR/Social Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metadata</td>
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<td>Public Library Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Curation/Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge Management</td>
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<td>Data Analytics</td>
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<tr>
<td>UX Design</td>
<td>57,500</td>
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</tbody>
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UW–Madison iSchool Class of 2016 – most respondents found jobs prior to graduation or within six months of graduating.

• 75% reported full-time employment
• 25% reported part-time or contract employment
• 68% report satisfaction with current position.
• 77% response rate from 2016 grads
Any Questions?