

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE, MLIS/URBAN STUDIES, MS

In collaboration with several other academic units at UW-Milwaukee, SOIS offers students the opportunity to obtain two Master's degrees concurrently—one in Library and Information Science (MLIS) and one in a subject area.

Degree Requirements

- The number of degree credits needed for each of the coordinated programs is usually 12 fewer than the sum of the two programs if they were not taken simultaneously. *All degree requirements of each component must be satisfied.*
- The MLIS portion of the coordinated degrees can be completed online.
- Prerequisite to the award of either degree in this program is the simultaneous award of its counterpart degree.

MLIS Component

The Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) component of each of the coordinated programs includes 30 credits of SOIS courses. These include the MLIS core courses (12 credits). The remaining 18 MLIS credits are selected from the School's offerings in accordance with the student's goals in the coordinated degree program.

MLIS/MS Urban Studies

A Master of Science in Urban Studies/Master of Library and Information Science program to prepare students for positions as urban information specialists, 54 credits.

Admission Requirements

Application Deadlines

Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (<http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines/>) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (<https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines/>).

Credits and Courses

Students in the MS/MLIS program follow all of the requirements and standards as described in this section of the catalog with the following joint exceptions: 21 of the 24 credits, including the optional 3 credits for a master's thesis, required for the Urban Studies portion of the joint degree are taken within USP. All courses in related areas and any exceptions to the 21 credit rule must be reviewed by the Coordinator of Urban Studies. All courses selected are expected to be consistent with the objectives of the Urban Studies program.

Urban Studies

The minimum degree requirement is 30 graduate credits. All Urban Studies students are required to take a core curriculum of 15 credits:

Code	Title	Credits
Select an approved quantitative analysis course		3
URB STD 921	Seminar: Research Methods in Urban Studies	3
Select three of the following:		9
URB STD 901	Urban Social Structure	
URB STD 913	Seminar in Urban Political Process	
URB STD 945	The Internal Structure of the City	
URB STD 971	Seminar on the History of American Urban Problems	
Total Credits		15

Students may opt to enroll in URB STD 990 and earn up to 3 credits toward the MS degree for their paper/thesis research and writing.

Basic Required MLIS Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
INFOST 501	Foundations of Library and Information Science	3
INFOST 511	Organization of Information	3
INFOST 571	Information Access and Retrieval	3
INFOST 799	Research Methods in Information Studies	3
Other MLIS courses		18
Total Credits		30

Important

You must refer to the catalog pages of both individual master's programs to ensure that you meet all requirements for both degrees.

MLIS Mission, Goals, Objectives, and Learning Outcomes

Mission

The mission of the MLIS program is to educate the next generation of information professionals by offering a rigorous curriculum that fosters professional knowledge and skills, professional ethics, critical inquiry, and leadership to address the needs of a diverse and global information society.

Goals and Learning Objectives

Goal 1: To impart knowledge of library and information science (LIS).

Students will be able to...

- 1.1 Delineate and assess important social, political, and historical developments in library and information science and cultural heritage institutions.
- 1.2 Analyze the information needs, preferences, and behaviors of users.
- 1.3 Describe and evaluate the range of roles that LIS professionals fill in society.
- 1.4 Apply the philosophy, principles, and ethics of LIS to professional practice.

Goal 2: To prepare the next generation of professionals for leadership roles in library and information science.

Students will be able to...

- 2.1 Identify and evaluate the diverse functions of the LIS professions.
- 2.2 Prepare for change in a rapidly evolving professional landscape.
- 2.3 Apply principles and technologies for the organization, access, retrieval, and preservation of information.
- 2.4 Develop and evaluate library and information services and systems.

Goal 3: To prepare professionals who are able to serve the information needs of a diverse global society.

Students will be able to...

- 3.1 Identify, promote, and provide services to serve the needs of diverse stakeholders, including underserved populations.
- 3.2 Integrate the theory and practice of library and information science for diverse audiences in a global society.

Goal 4: To develop new scholars and information professionals who can evaluate and apply research findings.

Students will be able to...

- 4.1 Assess the merits of research and apply relevant findings to professional practice.
- 4.2 Apply research theory, methods, and techniques to solve problems in the LIS professions.

Urban Studies MS Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from the Urban Studies MS program will be able to:

- Demonstrate mastery of key concepts in a sub-area of urban studies, as well as knowledge of the relevant interdisciplinary scholarly literature.
- Research, write, revise, and defend a master's thesis or internship-based paper that demonstrates (a) mastery of key concepts in a sub-area of urban studies; (b) knowledge of the relevant interdisciplinary scholarly literatures; (c) rigorous empirical analysis of data, using appropriate methodology; (d) clear organization and strong argumentation, prepared according to the standards and format characteristics of journal articles in the chosen area of study.
- Present research findings from the master's thesis or internship paper clearly and effectively.