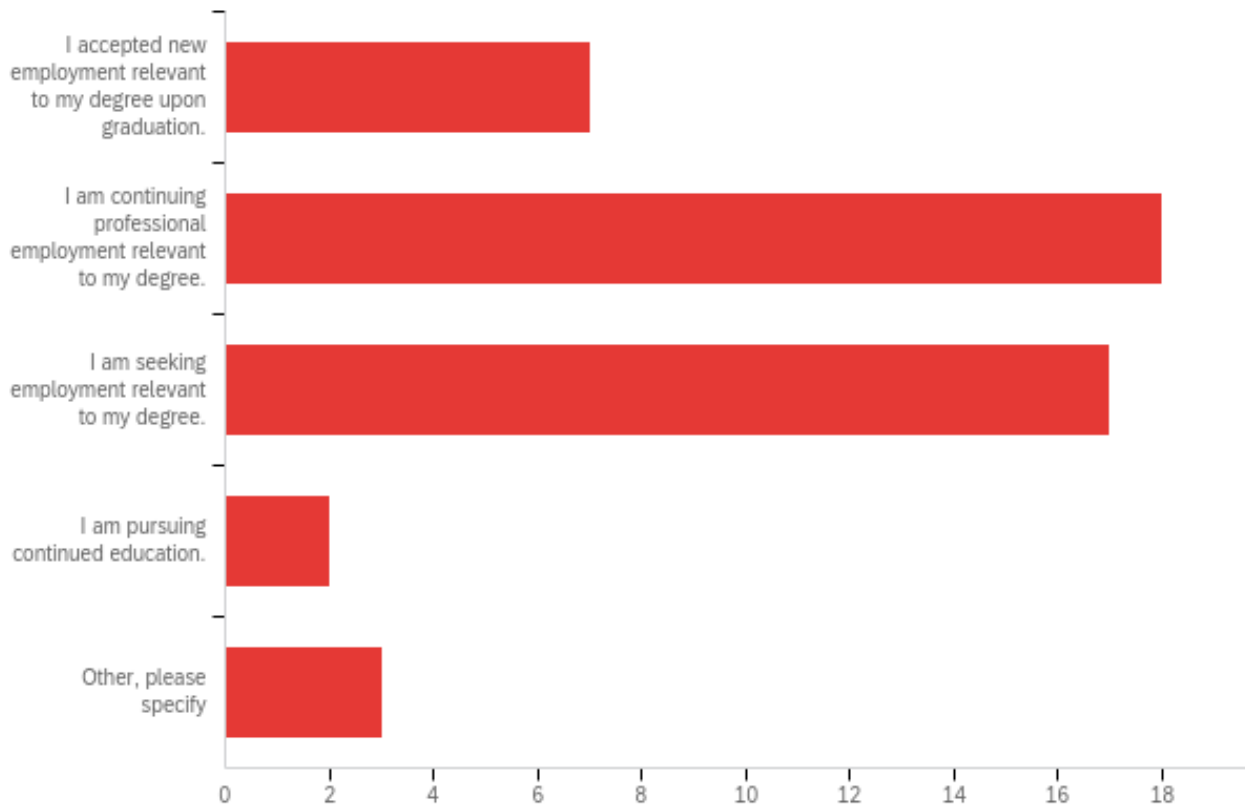


## 2021-2022 Exit Survey of Recent Graduates

*Exit survey results for students graduating in summer 2021, fall 2021, and spring 2022*

**Please choose the status that most accurately reflects your situation.**



#	Answer	%	Count
1	I accepted new employment relevant to my degree upon graduation.	14.89%	7
2	I am continuing professional employment relevant to my degree.	38.30%	18
3	I am seeking employment relevant to my degree.	36.17%	17
4	I am pursuing continued education.	4.26%	2
5	Other, please specify	6.38%	3
	Total	100%	47

Other, please specify - Text

---

I am casually seeking employment related to degree without intent to have a job within next 6months.

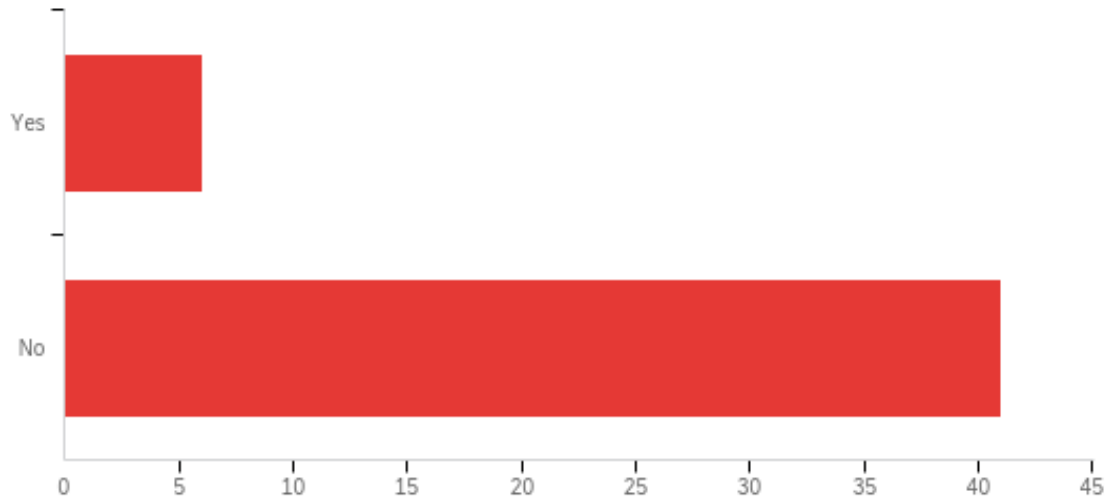
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I began employment during my time in the program.

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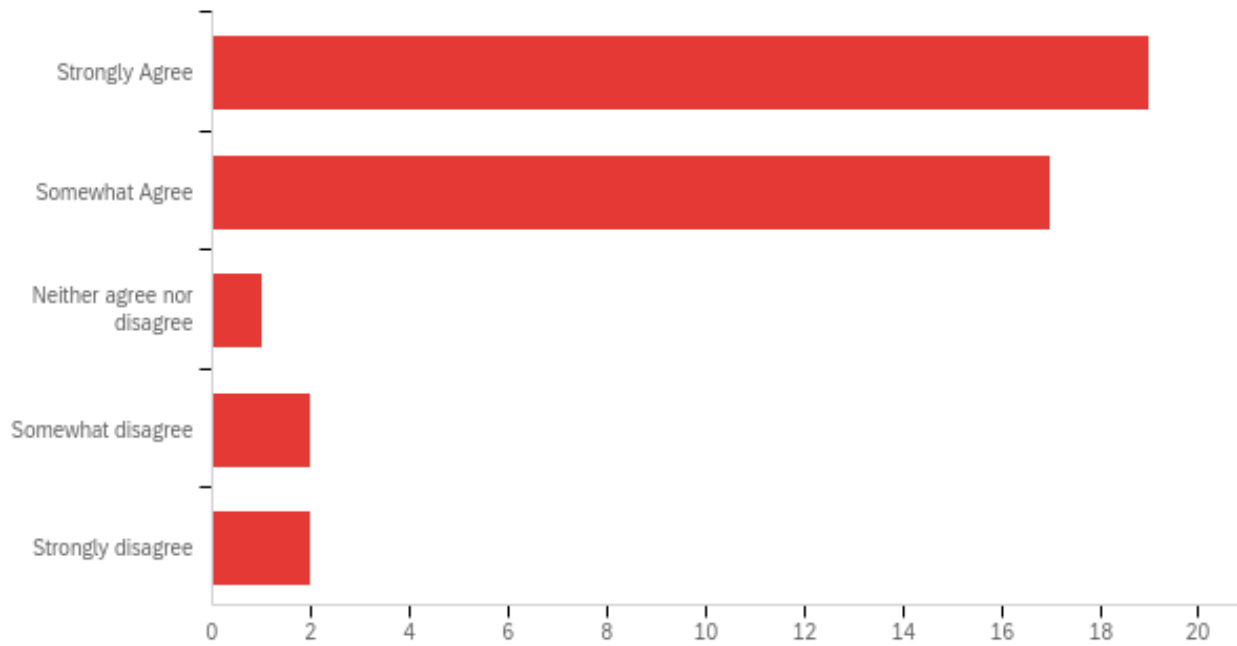
I accepted employment not relevant to my degree

## My degree is in the School Librarianship program



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	12.77%	6
2	No	87.23%	41
	Total	100%	47

## The quality of instruction in my program was excellent.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly Agree	46.34%	19
2	Somewhat Agree	41.46%	17
3	Neither agree nor disagree	2.44%	1
4	Somewhat disagree	4.88%	2
5	Strongly disagree	4.88%	2
	Total	100%	41

## Please comment on the above question.

Please comment on the above question.

Most of my class instruction was excellent.

There were professors that I have had who are amazing; however, there was a handful that left a very bad taste in my mouth for the program. They were very condescending and made me not motivated to learn. If I were to do this program again, I would consider enrolling at a different school.

Great instructors.

yep

most courses were exceptional, a couple were not and made learning the content challenging, ie. Research Methods and Information Life Cycle. All course recordings should include a transcript option

Some professors were wonderful with asynchronous instruction and some just gave us a list of things to read. A real mixed bag.

Had a course or two that didn't meet expectations but for the most part all of my professors provided excellent resources and lectures to instruct.

The quality of instruction for some of the courses were ok, but for a significant amount of the courses the instruction was very poor.

Felt that the program needed more, hands-on learning with the actual systems that are out there. Yes, I know that each library has its own system but I would feel better if I knew how to work them better, than just a semester or two.

I enjoyed the different modules and classes that I took.

All professors, Dr. Allen especially, were so helpful and awesome.

Some professors were really great. They made the effort to make sure we walked away having learned something. And it felt like some professors couldn't be bothered to actually teach. They would assign monotonous readings and busy work style discussion board posts without doing much teaching. This was frustrating because I paid so much money to be taught, but I had some professors who were incredibly bad at teaching.

Most (with exception of 1-2) professors were highly organized, skilled, and interested in the subject they were teaching.

Quality greatly varied between professors

Good

It depended on the professor. Some were great, some were good, a few were horrible.

Great!

Professors are absolutely terrinle. classes are juvenile and suited for undergraduates.

Could stand for more variation in assignments and course structures.

I would say that most of my professors (75%) were wonderful. They had engaging lessons, they were easy to communicate with, and had a genuine passion for the subject they were teaching. However, I did have a few professor that had highly disorganized classes, they were hard to get in touch with, and didn't seem to care about the class and/or students.

n/a

My professors were thoughtful, knowledgeable, and engaged with the course topics. I felt challenged but not overwhelmed. (Ok, maybe occasionally overwhelmed).

Most of the professors in this program provided instruction that I found very effective and accessible. I was very pleased with the faculty in terms of credentials, teaching style, dedication to the program, etc.

For the most part all my professors were great but the professors for research methodology could be better. Neither professors were great at explaining the course or the assignments.

Professors like Nasset, Elia, VanScoy, Poremski, Sun, Wang, and Hollister were excellent and knew how to run asynchronous courses well. Other professors, were not as great.

I felt like I learned a lot from each of the courses I took throughout my program.

Some professors were done teaching by Thanksgiving break.

Most classes were great and I found them to be valuable for my future career.

The University at Buffalo and its MS-ILS were the only school and program I looked at when I had the opportunity to pursue graduate school, and everywhere I turned I was reminded I made an excellent decision.

Instructions were very thorough.

The courses were relevant to the degree.

The classes offered and materials in the classes were not relevant enough to my librarian career. Too intense of a focus on information science rather than library science.

Some of the courses I took had excellent quality of instruction. Others could have used some improvement.

N/A

N/A

The quality of instruction within this program was outstanding. For the program being entirely online, I always felt included and that my participation and work completed in the courses mattered.

n/a

For the most part, instructors were available and responsive. I preferred instruction that was varied with short videos done by the instructor (as opposed to long-over an hour or more OR done by someone else), and the inclusion of guest speaker videos or other supplemental videos. Dr. Van Scoy was very modern in her approach, in the way I described. Short activities are appreciated as supplemental hands on experience. What is not appreciated is group work and the response of, too bad you do not like group work, get over it. As an older adult graduate student with many years experience, I do not need to learn to work well with others. I have been employed for years and do not need to be told this. Not all of my classes involved group work, but I only experienced one good group experience with participants who worked in a timely manner and contributed a fairly decent amount of work.

For the most part, instruction was high-quality. There were times, though, when the content of the courses felt too basic, too surface-level and introductory, for the people teaching it to show their caliber. The times when I felt instruction was really top-notch were the courses that involved theory and nuanced technical skills. But there were also many times throughout the program where I completed assignments really not knowing if I was fulfilling expectations for the professor. Is this right? Does this answer the question? Am I on the right track? And when people would ask clarifying questions, somehow the answers didn't help. So, improving assignment directions if your students feel lost should happen, just as a basic point of feedback.

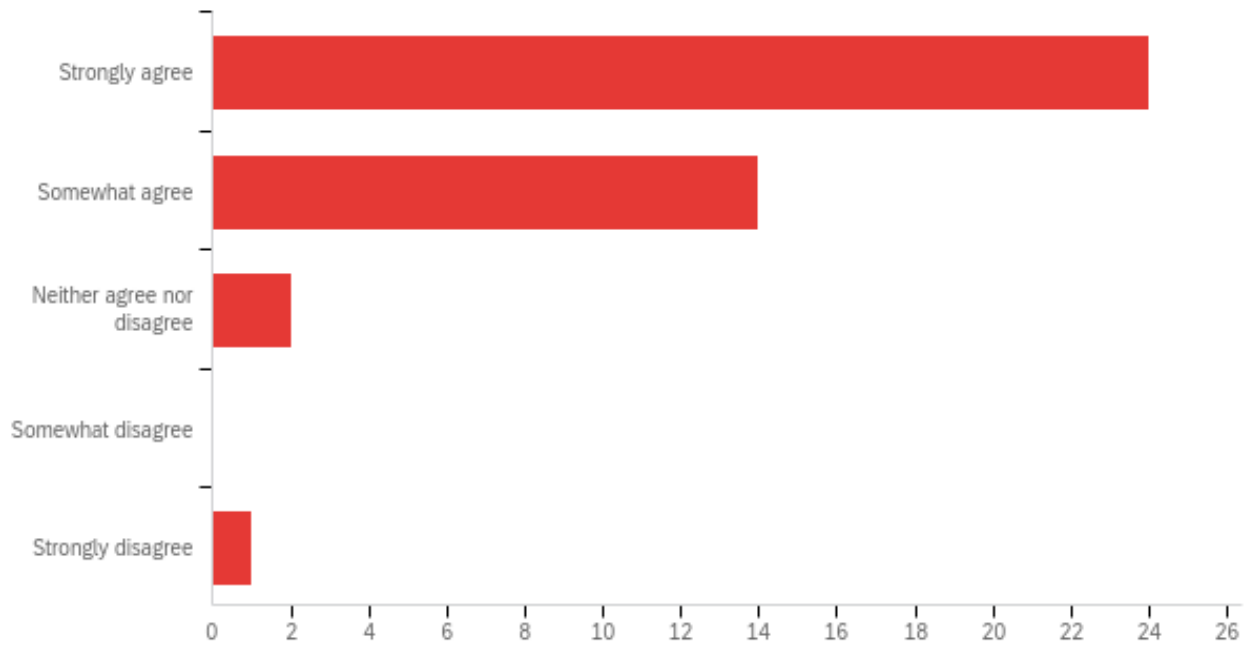
I had a wonderful experience and a very high quality of instruction from all of my professors. I cannot speak highly enough of Dr. White. She was a pleasure to have as an instructor and was always grateful for her thoughtful and helpful feedback. I was always pleased with any interactions with her and felt that she offered strong lectures and course set up that I was able to enjoy and fully grasp concepts taught by her. I felt that all my professors offered quality instruction with the EXTREME EXCEPTION of [name], LIS 575 lacked direction, guidance,

and any request for additional feedback resulted in very little if any help (if any was even received). I felt that I was often misled or received contradictory information between the lecture and a virtual class meeting.

---

I had really great professors. They know what they are talking about and actually engaged with me even though the program is online

## My interactions with faculty members were generally positive.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	58.54%	24
2	Somewhat agree	34.15%	14
3	Neither agree nor disagree	4.88%	2
4	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly disagree	2.44%	1
	Total	100%	41



## Please comment on the above question.

Please comment on the above question.

Great interactions with faculty.

Same as above. Please consider evaluating how professors interact with students.

Give Elliot McNally an award. Truly one of the best professors I've ever had

yep

Yes, most faculty were fantastic! A couple were not as responsive as others but that was 3 out of the total program.

With a few notable exceptions, faculty were responsive and understanding

Again, had one or two instructors who were more abrasive and less helpful than others, but the majority of my professors were great, helpful, and informative.

My interactions with some of the faculty members was amazing. My interaction with some of them was very stressful.

They were able to answer the questions I had but also were kind of hands-off a lot of the time. Now, I know that it is an online course but they still could try to keep a pulse on what the students are feeling and thinking.

Other than a few professors who I believe did not respond to certain assignments nicely. I have nothing but positive things to say

Every professor I had, save for 1, was really helpful and always offering assistance when needed.

Most of my experiences were neutral. Some were excellent. And some left me with a terrible taste in my mouth. Thankfully the latter group had the least amount, but I was honestly kind of disgusted with some faculty members. And some also didn't acknowledge that most of us also have a job and a life outside of school and we were expected to treat their class as our first and foremost responsibility. But if I asked for help because I was struggling they apparently couldn't do that.

With the exception of my research class, the Professor interactions were always informative.

Maybe in-person interactions would have been better, but some instructors came across as very rude and demeaning in class and direct communication

Friendly

Again, depended on the professors.

Always positive

professors make it clear they do not care about you. They treat you as if you're bothering them.

Had very little direct interaction with professors.

n/a

n/a

I've only had positive interactions with faculty.

Faculty were usually extremely willing to help me both as their student and as a fellow information professional.

All my professors were very accommodating and supportive.

---

Most of the professor interactions were wonderful, even with professors who struggled with online teaching.

---

Professors generally were quick to respond to students' questions.

---

Faculty was helpful anytime I needed to reach out via email.

---

Most interactions were great. Some were delayed or came off cold.

---

All of my instructors were terrific and wonderful to learn from and work with. In two specific instances, I needed to reach out to instructors for help with the course content and assignments. Both of them did not hesitate to talk with me and assist me and ensure I succeeded in their courses.

---

Very approachable.

---

There was an instructor who did not use the platform that the rest of the UB courses used and was very unhelpful with the coursework.

---

Some great teachers - Dr. B, Elizabeth Stellrecht, Molly Poremski. But some professors were difficult and confusing and unreachable – [name] [name] (extremely intense demands)

---

I did not have any negative interactions with faculty members.

---

Faculty members were very helpful and in my experience, surprisingly accommodating to my specific needs. I am grateful to them.

---

N/A

---

I enjoyed all of my professors, never had I had one that was a negative experience. They were all friendly and extremely knowledgeable.

---

Connecting with faculty members is difficult with an online program, and some faculty did not provide outlets for students to connect with them outside of recorded lectures and course materials.

---

I only interacted with faculty with email. I would say they all respond in a timely manner.

---

I don't want to name names, but I had one core class where the instructor was decidedly unsympathetic to people facing the complications of covid, even if they actually had it. I was shocked. Students who were back on their feet and trying to recoup the semester were told they couldn't make up participation points and should take a medical leave if they felt they were so impacted. What an utterly disgraceful attitude to have, and towards people directly affected by the local pandemic we were, and still are, in. I don't think higher admin was sympathetic, either. All around there was an uncomfortable degree of hypocrisy to students navigating covid, though most of my professors did not fall into that category, thankfully.

---

Highly positive- with the exception of [name] who misled and refused clarification on multiple occasions.

---

The professors were very kind and accommodating if you just emailed them.

**My interactions with my fellow students were generally positive.**

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	65.85%	27
2	Somewhat agree	21.95%	9
3	Neither agree nor disagree	9.76%	4
4	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly disagree	2.44%	1
	Total	100%	41

**Please comment on the above question.**

Please comment on the above question.

Great interactions with students.

Most students that I had interacted with were pleasant; however, there were a few that I met that relied on others for all of the work. For group projects, there was always one or two that didn't carry their weight.

Had only a couple bad group project members, none too horrible

yep

Very little interaction with other students but for the most part it was positive.

Love my classmates

Didn't interact all that much with fellow students aside from group projects but generally it was positive interactions.

I had little interaction with my fellow students, but most of my interactions were great. Some were just ok.

Whenever I posted on Ublearns I felt that the students kept themselves professional and open to opinions by all.

I have become friends with a few of the students that I was in this program with!

Classmates were fine and supportive in discussion boards.

I loved working with my classmates

Every group project was seamless!

Didn't really comunicarte beyond required communication. Wish I could gotten to know certain classmates better

Not many interaction

No

No negative interactions

Students should not have been allowed into grad school. V clear this is a money making scam that accepts everyone.

Very little interaction.

n/a

n/a

I've had positive working relationships with my fellow students. Early on in the program I had one team member who didn't do any work... but this was the exception. Discussion board conversations were positive and respectful. As an online student, I had limited interaction with fellow students outside of class.

I participated in a few group projects throughout the program, and my group members were a pleasure to work with. I also met a lot of people as classmates and engaged in many meaningful class discussions.

All students have positive critiques and useful feedback. All students worked together equally in teams.

Amazing peers, so brilliant and wonderful to communicate with.

---

The discussion board and other group activities allowed students to have generally positive interactions with each other.

---

The student body was very engaging and helpful in class discussions.

---

I enjoyed working with my peers on group projects. I feel like I will continue to interact with my peers in the future.

---

While the nature of an online program limits interaction compared to an in-person program, there were two times when I had group projects for my courses and both times these were without a doubt the best groups I have ever worked with.

---

Mostly nice students.

---

During group projects all students were positive.

---

UB LIS discord was amazing. We all could commiserate.

---

All but one group assignment went extremely well, and I was very pleased with all my interactions, both in group projects and regular course work, throughout my time at UB.

---

N/A

---

N/A

---

I loved all of my classmates and bonded with so many of them virtually. It's been a great networking experience as well.

---

Students were generally very helpful and wonderful to collaborate with on group/partner assignments.

---

For the most part, I had positive interactions.

---

We were in the height of the pandemic. People were stressed. I had some head-butting here and there in group projects. And, being online, I rarely felt a connection to anyone I worked with unless we were having zoom meetings. Online classes, too, foster a surface-level, robotic way of interacting with people where you just parrot what the online lesson was about, talk about how lovely the other person's response was, gather your weekly participation points, and move on. Few people truly want to have a discussion and if they can ignore you, they will. A lot of the program was more a set of chores to complete and walk away from with little to no follow-up on what someone might have said to you. But again, it was a pandemic, and many of us had other things to do to get by.

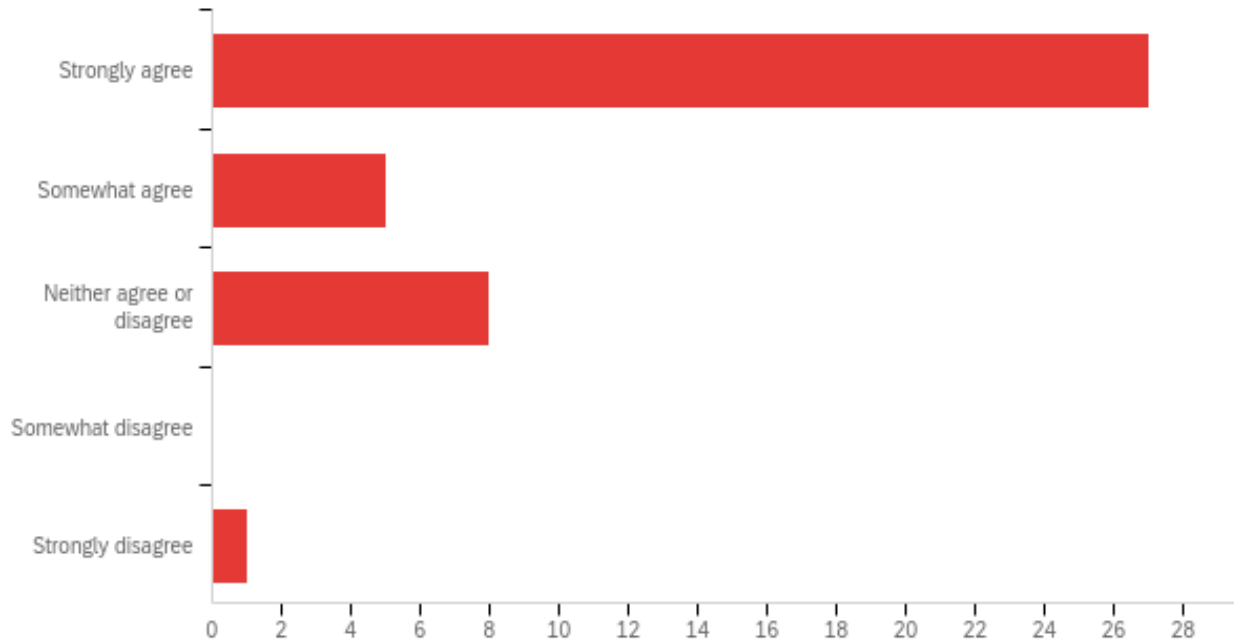
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Always found the group chats or discussion boards that were set up were filled with positive feedback and supportive interactions. everyone was always very willing to help or answer questions.

---

Some students were great... some were a little to close for comfort when it came to boundaries. I didn't know these people and I kind of wish they wouldn't have just called me in the middle of the day when I didn't know them and I only gave them my number because we were in a group project together. It was inappropriate.

**My interactions with department administrative staff were generally positive.**



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	65.85%	27
2	Somewhat agree	12.20%	5
3	Neither agree or disagree	19.51%	8
4	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly disagree	2.44%	1
	Total	100%	41

**Please comment on the above question.**

Please comment on the above question.

few interactions, but all positive.

Always ready to help! Arryonna is great at what she does.

Few experiences I had were positive

yep

Very little contact with them.

I had few reasons to interact with department admin staff but they were all wonderful when I needed to

n/a

I loved the person from the department that I worked with.

I didn't really interact with the administrative staff. The only interact was when picking courses for my second semester, there was a mixup with my Plan of Study but they were quick to fix it and I got into my the courses I wanted.

I got a lot of great information from the administrative staff

N/A

I didn't really have any

Always helpful - thank you &lt;3!

N/A

Hardly heard from administration

I didn't really interact with any administrative staff.

Rarely interacted with them but always positive

Never responded. Multiple admin errors every semester, such as issues scheduling.

All fine

n/a

n/a

I've had limited interactions with administrative staff, but the few I did were positive.

My main point of contact in administration was my advisor, Dr. B. She was always so helpful and really helped to make my journey through this program a smooth one.

Very informative and helpful. Always gets back to you

Didn't really interact.

I found department administrative staff very helpful in answering my questions.

---

When I did need to reach out to administration, they were quick to reply and helpful.

---

I found administrative staff to be helpful in times when I needed assistance.

---

Everyone at UB has been really and truly fantastic to work with and always ready, willing, and happy to help. From financial aid to veterans services to GSE and DIS. It had been a pleasure and a privilege.

---

Very prompt.

---

They were helpful.

---

Never had an issue.

---

I did not have much interaction with administrative staff, but what I did have was very positive.

---

N/A

---

N/A

---

I've dealt with administration a few times, all interactions were positive and successful. I wish replies were a little quicker for more urgent matters.

---

Department administration were usually prompt with responding to any questions I had.

---

I had very little interaction with support staff and only via email, which was always timely.

---

The department's full of great people who were mostly compassionate to the incredible circumstances we found ourselves in.

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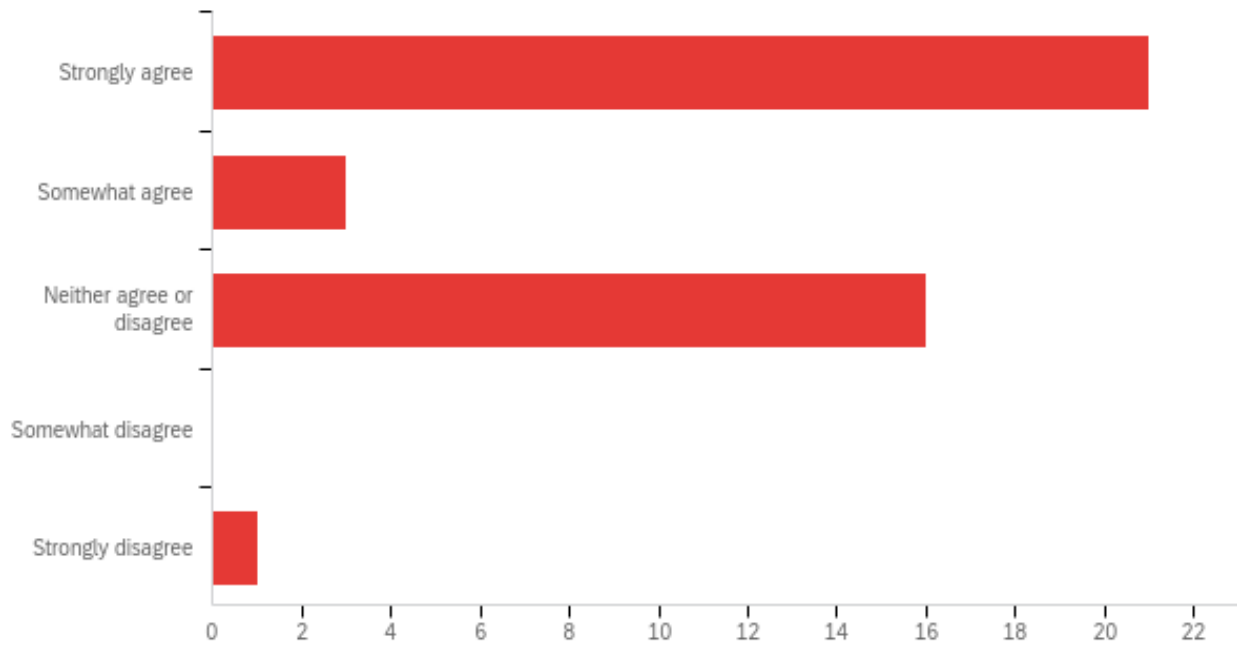
Always quick to respond and help if I needed guidance.

---

Really didn't interact with them.



## My interactions with the Department Chair were generally positive.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	51.22%	21
2	Somewhat agree	7.32%	3
3	Neither agree or disagree	39.02%	16
4	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly disagree	2.44%	1
	Total	100%	41

**Please comment on the above question.**

Please comment on the above question.

few interactions, but all positive.

I don't recall ever interacting with the Department Chair.

Same as above

yep

Minimal contact with the Chair.

Felt very approachable

n/a

I don't think that I had any interactions with the Department Chair.

I didn't really interact with the department chair, besides the email that he sends out now and then.

The department chair was amazing and so helpful!

N/A

I didn't really have any

I only recieved emails, but they were always very positive messages.

n/a

Hardly heard from chair, nor is this an expectation

Again, I did not interact with this person.

No real interaction with this person

Made it clear was annoying to be emailed.

Did not interact much.

I found it a little difficult to get responses from the Dept. Chair in a timely manner, but otherwise he was easy to interact with.

n/a

I'm not sure I had any interactions with the Chair.

I didn't have any direct interaction with the Department Chair.

Answers emails fast and is very accommodating.

I didn't realize interact with them, but nothing bad to say.

If I had a question that I did not feel could be answered any other way, I was able to contact the department chair with a prompt response. The chair was very helpful in his responses to my questions.

I had the department chair as an instructor; I never reached out otherwise.

---

All my interactions were positive, easy going, and helpful.

---

I always appreciate reading Dan's positive, supportive, and encouraging emails!

---

Approachable and prompt.

---

Did not interact with department chair.

---

Never had an issue.

---

I did not have any interaction with the chair to my knowledge.

---

N/A

---

N/A

---

I've interacted with the Department Chair on a few occasions. They were pleasant interactions and my concerns were rectified.

---

n/a

---

I like that Dr. Albertson checks in with students via a program targeted email. It connects students and faculty nicely.

---

I didn't really interact with the chair. I got those nice emails of support every now and then, though.

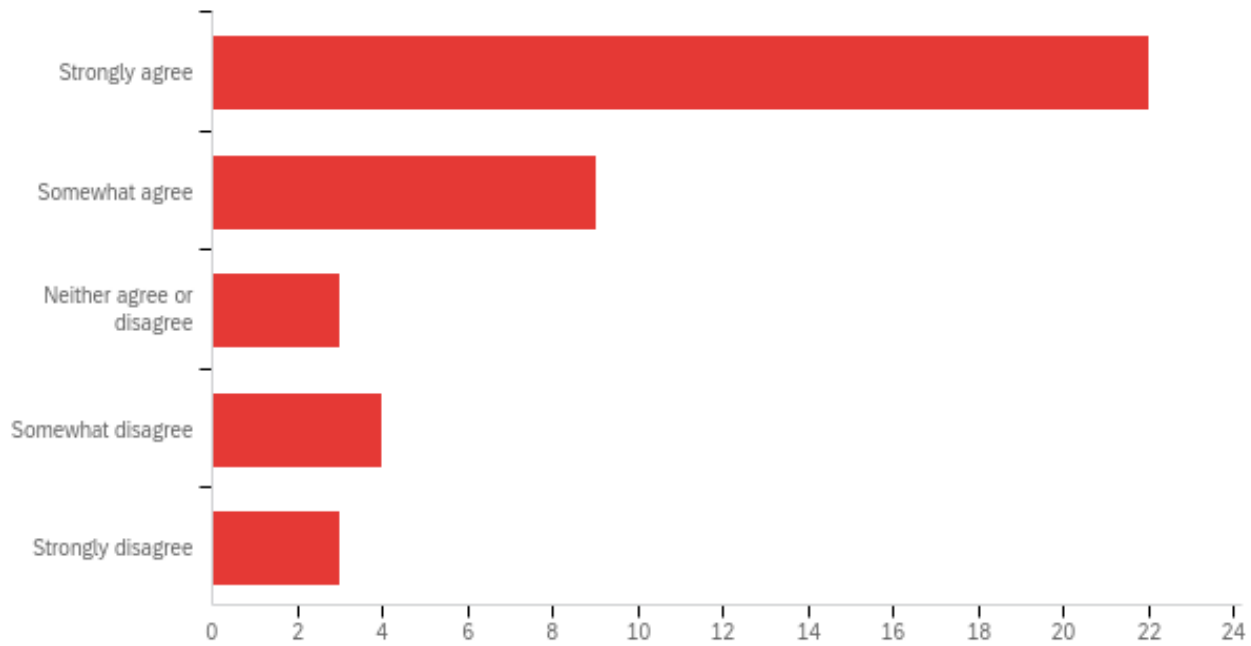
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Very responsive when I reached out to him.

---

He was also my professor so it was good.

## I received useful information from my faculty advisor.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	53.66%	22
2	Somewhat agree	21.95%	9
3	Neither agree or disagree	7.32%	3
4	Somewhat disagree	9.76%	4
5	Strongly disagree	7.32%	3
	Total	100%	41

## Please comment on the above question.

Please comment on the above question.

quick responses, and positive interactions.

I have had no issues with my advisor.

I corresponded with my advisor twice- once to get a plan of study down. Another time to amend my plan of study after taking all my classes. I felt like I had to ask others for what classes were about or like. When we spoke I didn't have much of an idea of what I wanted out of the program, so that's not really on my advisor.

yep

Very helpful in offering recommendations for course progression and courses to take throughout the program.

Not very encouraging, felt too focused on academia than in-field experience

Dr. B is amazing! So helpful and full of information. Quick to reply to emails as well!

She was great!

When contacting my advisor, I had to contact them through many different places but once I received my response it was okay. It would be better if my advisor made it clear which contact to use would be a lot easier.

I didn't even know I had an advisor at first and every time I reached out to her she would tell me something I should have done months ago. I wish I had a different advisor or someone to actually reach out and help me.

Mary Jo is amazing!! She was always there to answer questions and emails, and was extremely helpful with finding a placement for my practicum.

I do wish my advisor had been a bit more active. I had my credit numbers messed up in my head and I now know I could have been done one semester sooner had I known. I sometimes felt like I was in this completely on my own.

Dr. N is a rock star.

Only interacted with my faculty advisor when I absolutely had to. She crafted a Plan of Study that resulted in my missing the two classes I chose this program for. If I had been able to create my own Plan of Study, I don't believe this would have happened. I assumed since she had to create it, she would know when courses were offered.

Good advisor

[name] is kind, but was not very responsive.

She was always helpful

Dr. Nessel was the only good thing about this program.

All fine

My advisor hardly interacted with me. The only time I corresponded with him was to sign/approve my plan of study. I wish he had reached out to help or offer advice.

n/a

My advisor encouraged me to pursue courses of study and career choices that fit my strengths. He also helped me complete required paperwork to complete the degree.

As stated above, Dr. B was a fantastic advisor.

Not every faculty advisor is helpful. I wish mine had more advice for me. I was kind of just walking blind through this program.

---

BLB was amazing with helping me out with my plethora of silly questions.

---

I felt that I was well advised by my advisor. He made good suggestions of what courses I should take and when during my program. However, I thought the initial advisement process could have been easier if my advisor was more direct with course suggestions. One thing that was not my advisor's fault was what courses I should have taken for certain future career routes, was not clear. There should be a general list of courses students should take for the career direction they want to head towards.

---

My faculty advisor usually responded quickly.

---

My advisor was very helpful and quick to respond with all of my academic needs.

---

I didn't communicate with Dr. Sun often, but when I did she provided superb help to point me in the right direction of my courses and career. I work with Dr. Nasset as the advisor for my practicum, and she was constructive and supportive in her feedback to me.

---

Approachable and prompt.

---

The advisors were very helpful in guiding me through what needed to be completed for my degree.

---

Didn't fully seem to know what I needed but would sign papers quickly.

---

My advisor was able to help me find courses that both interested me and filled the requirements of the plan of study.

---

My advisor was phenomenal - I wish everyone could have her.

---

N/A

---

I loved Dr. White, she was an excellent and supportive advisor.

---

My faculty advisor almost always failed to respond to my emails with questions or concerns, and did not communicate with me unless absolutely necessary.

---

Emails were answered timely.

---

Dr. B answered all my questions and set me on the path to getting everything done that I needed to. Highly recommend her both as an instructor and advisor. All around, excellent person.

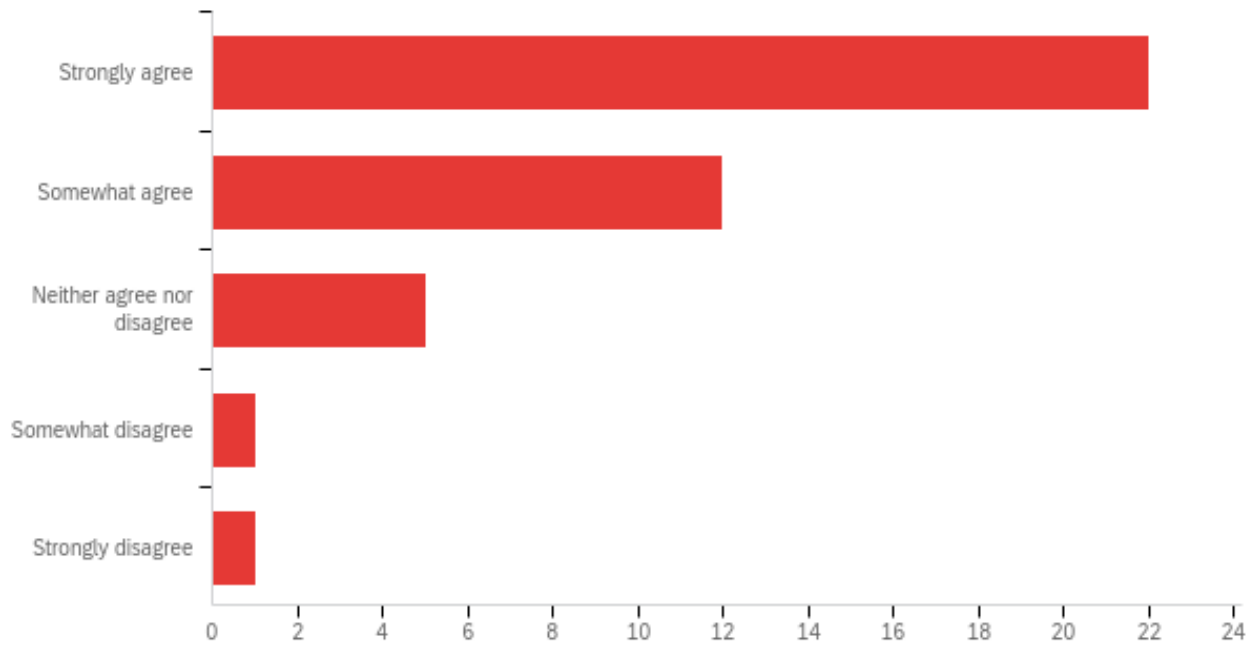
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Prof Sun was lovely and offered great direction as I started my course work, I however turned to Dr. White for a majority of questions and clarifications and she was instrumental in helping me complete my LIS 527 Special projects and my portfolio.

---

My advisor was not great. I basically did it all myself and she rarely emailed me back when I needed her to. She is the reason I had to take an extra semester because she never responded to my emails regarding my graduation status. Then she never even contacted me about graduation or making sure I apply to graduate. Good thing I remembered that myself because my advisor was useless.

**I had access to appropriate specialized library software and related technology to support my educational needs.**



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	53.66%	22
2	Somewhat agree	29.27%	12
3	Neither agree nor disagree	12.20%	5
4	Somewhat disagree	2.44%	1
5	Strongly disagree	2.44%	1
	Total	100%	41

## Please comment on the above question.

Please comment on the above question.

pretty good.

All technology that was required was available to use.

I wish there was more of this, using ASpace and setting up a webpage was very instructional.

yep

Only required for one course and it was accessible.

Most things were web based so kind of beyond UB's control

Didn't really have access to software/technology. For a few classes I was able to use software with free trials but if I needed longer term access I would've had to pay more money which is not something I knew before beginning the course.

Yes! I definitely agree

If I needed it, it was there.

The library software we had access to was terrific.

The guidance in using VPN and software through the VPN was anxiety-provoking and not ever a good experience.

Most of the classes references software that we did not learn how to use.

n/a

One software in particular that I was happy to gain experience with was ArchivesSpace. I found this to be a very practical tool that I may use in the future should I enter the field of archives.

For the most part I did, for some of the assignments I had to use Microsoft Access, which despite the name, is not accessible for Apple users.

Most courses required Microsoft Office and did not require special software. However, for the courses that did require it, I was able to access the specialized software (ArchiveSpace, KOHA, etc.).

My instructors provided tips and introduce additional software that made researching paper topics very easy.

I enjoyed having access to library software. I feel like it would be benefited from even more practical experience with software.

I didn't have many technological needs, but everything worked when I needed it to.

Very accessible.

Not used

Rarely needed or offered.

All my technology needs were fully met.

N/A



N/A

---

I never had to acquire anything too special, only things like Zoom or Microsoft Office.

---

n/a

---

I'm not sure what is meant by specialized library software. But I feel I had the resources needed for my educational needs. I am incredibly disappointed in the loss of UB Libraries access after I graduate. The resources vastly improve my research needs. If there is a way to extend that, I would like to know.

---

If you're on a Mac, you won't have Access and need the virtual lab. Awful experience that kept disconnecting and kicking me off, losing my work, and was all around a struggle. I never would have taken a Database course if I knew I'd have to use it. Great class, though. Terrible tech.

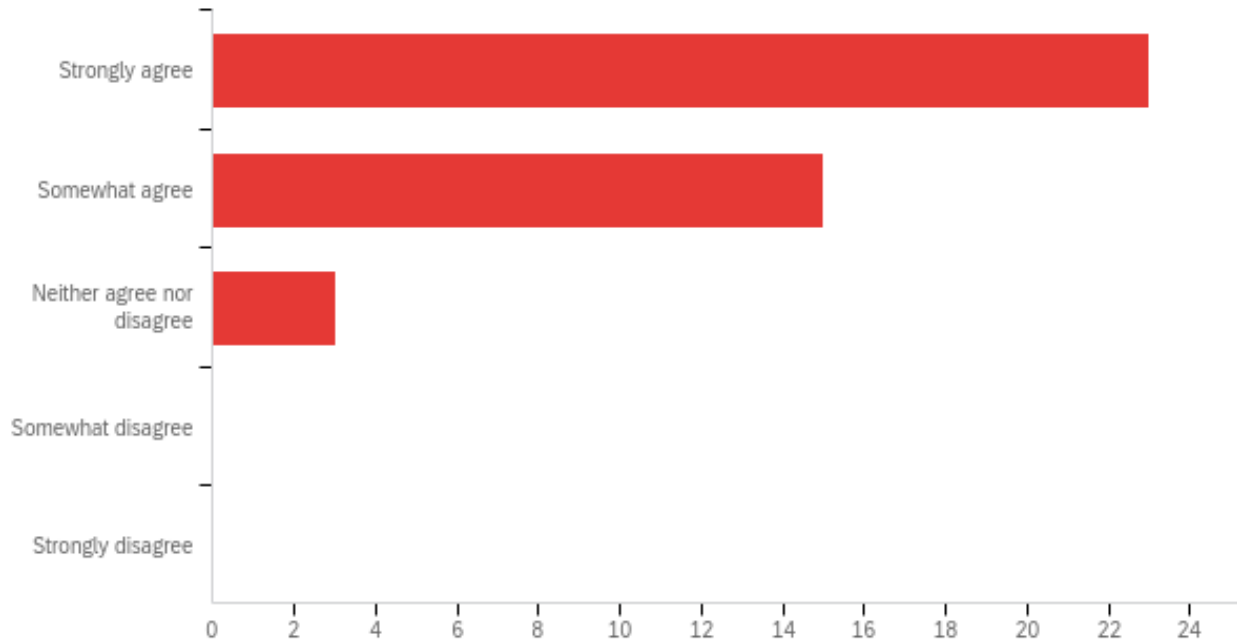
---

I was able to get the programs that I needed- and especially for the COVID years the access to ZOOM was a lifesaver!

---

I had to do some of my own research and technology finding because I wasn't actually on campus. Which was expected since it's an online program.

## I am prepared to enter the workforce in my chosen field.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	56.10%	23
2	Somewhat agree	36.59%	15
3	Neither agree nor disagree	7.32%	3
4	Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
5	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	41

## Please comment on the above question.

Please comment on the above question.

pretty ready.

Through the electives, this program helped me to find many other areas that I am interested in.

I definitely have the information and theory down, but I feel pretty intimidated by the actual nuts and bolts of library work

yep

Yes, I feel prepared

Unsure if I will continue in the LIS field

I feel well prepared to enter the workforce. I will be starting a job in June in the field using experience I gained at UB working in the libraries and from my classes.

Absolutely!

My practicum prepared me pretty well.

As much as I learned from some of my courses, I think this mostly comes from my actual experience working in a library.

Yep! I just need a job to open in my area now.

simultaneously working in the field provided context for the information I was learning. I don't know that I would be properly prepared to enter public librarianship with that education alone.

I found a position but am getting more through experience than any of the ILS classes.

n/a

Does anyone ever feel ready to be a librarian after graduate school? I certainly feel more prepared than before my program. I am more confident in my knowledge and skills. But I still feel like I have a lot to learn!

I currently work in an academic library setting, and have been able to apply many of the concepts covered in this program to my work. I feel better equipped to continue my career in this field, and prepared to explore other possible paths in public librarianship and/or archives.

I hope so! I feel like I learned quite a bit, but we shall see how long it takes for me to find a job, haha.

From what I learned in my courses, I feel prepared to enter the workforce in my chosen field.

I have the theory behind librarianship behind me, but I do not have the know-how that the workforce would give me.

Once I obtain a job in the library field, I feel very confident I will be prepared, even if I may not understand something, I know I have the resources to figure it out.

Absolutely. I hope to enter the archives field or the public library environment, and the program has prepared me well for either avenue.

I am feeling very confident.

I am already in the workforce that I am getting my degree in.

Would be more prepared if there were a track for public librarians and courses for them. Most of these courses were meant for information science or school librarians. This program seems to have been geared toward them and as a public librarian focused student, I feel let down.

---

With my previous experience and the further insights from my studies, I am well prepared to enter into professional librarianship.

---

N/A

---

N/A

---

I was given a full-time position and promoted during this program.

---

n/a

---

I have worked in libraries for nearly 23 years. All of the work experience provides cumulative knowledge. I think the IS program has prepared me, however I would have preferred some practical classes. UB's program is very theory driven. Suggestions are cataloging courses, in depth instruction courses.

---

The program boosted my understanding of LIS, but there are a lot of basic programs used in the field that we never explicitly talked about or used. ALMA, Odyssey, ILLiad, SIRSI, all these tools that libraries are looking to see if you learned, are more things you get into on the job. So practicums are really where you need to go to learn, not the courses themselves.

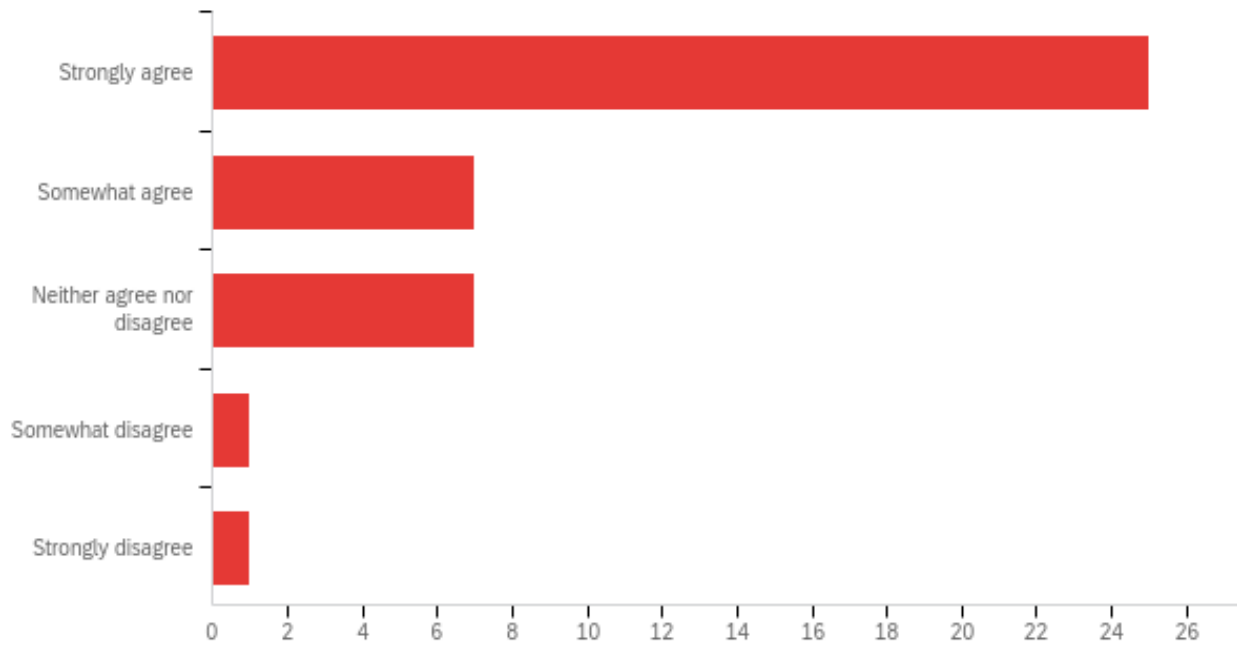
---

I will continue on in my current role as a librarian assistant and now have the opportunity to move up the ladder if and when a position opens or if I would like to move to a different library.

---

I feel ready but I also wasn't provided any opportunity for hands-on experience and so that makes it hard for me to feel entirely confident but honestly there's no jobs in libraries anyway so it's going to take me forever to find a job in a library anyway. Maybe by that time I'll have the hands-on experience I'll need through volunteering.

## I am confident that I will be professionally successful.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	60.98%	25
2	Somewhat agree	17.07%	7
3	Neither agree nor disagree	17.07%	7
4	Somewhat disagree	2.44%	1
5	Strongly disagree	2.44%	1
	Total	100%	41

**Please comment on the above question.**

Please comment on the above question.

pretty confident.

Through the skills acquired through this program, I was able to start my own company.

Job markets pretty tough out there

yep

Yes, I feel I will be successful

Yes. Hopefully.

I have imposter syndrome, so who knows?

This program covered all the bases.

I publish actively but did so prior to this degree.

n/a

I think the only thing that may hold me back is the tough career market for librarians.

I feel confident that the skills and knowledge I have gained from this program will contribute to my success in the field of information and library science.

If I can get a job in my field, certainly.

From what I learned in my courses, I feel that I will succeed professionally.

There are not many professional opportunities available to online students who work during the weekdays.

I am concerned about obtaining a position in the library field given the market during a pandemic. I hope I can find a position with the job experience that I already have because I was not able to obtain as much job experience in a library as much as I would prefer.

This program has equipped me well with knowledge, skills, and confidence in my abilities.

The LIS program has trained me well.

This program focused on the professional it's of school librarians.

My confidence comes from my work experience and connections I've made on my own, not from schooling. I will be successful due to the fact that I have my degree in hand, not what I learned from it.

I find this kind of a strange question: how can anyone know that? It'd be nice and I'm trying my best, but I do not know what the future holds. It feels like responses to this reflect more on the person filling out the survey rather than the the program and faculty.

N/A

Absolutely, not a doubt in my mind. This program, along with my professional position, have prepared me substantially.

n/a

With these budget cuts and lack of funding? I have no idea where I'm getting a job, especially with the way B&ECPL system conducts themselves. I beg the department to get involved with Erie County Civil Service and Albany standards. We're seeing without a doubt that entry-level jobs can be almost impossible, and a lot of people think they'll be scoring high when they get out. They won't. They might get a 70, and will only get a 100 if they have two years of full-time experience. So please, if you want your graduates to be locally successful, you need to dive into Civil Service advocacy.

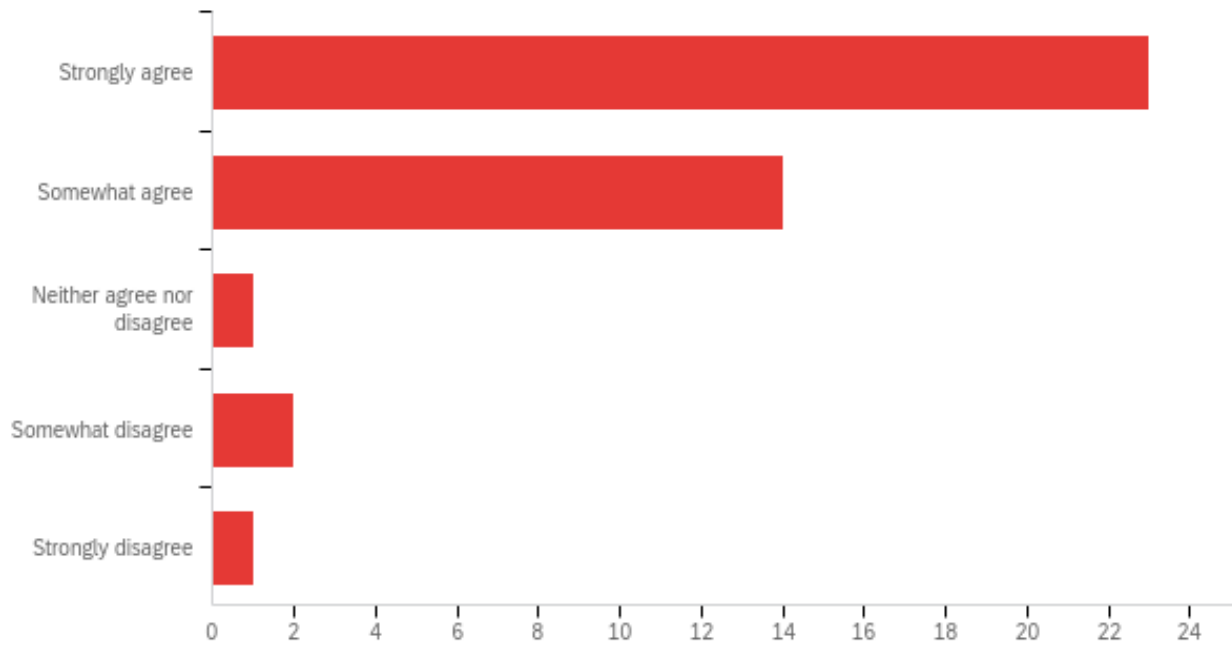
---

I have had more than 20 years of experience in the library before I began my LIS degree and was highly successful as I moved up and around within the library- however, I would not be able to take on a full-time paid librarian position unless I had the degree.

---

This is a loaded statement and we live in a horrible economy.

## I would recommend this program to others.



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	56.10%	23
2	Somewhat agree	34.15%	14
3	Neither agree nor disagree	2.44%	1
4	Somewhat disagree	4.88%	2
5	Strongly disagree	2.44%	1
	Total	100%	41



## Please comment on the above question.

Please comment on the above question.

I would recommend this program to most people.

I would recommend this program to anyone if it wasn't for the handful of professors that need to be evaluated.

If you got the money and time for it, it helps if you're already working in a library. But as a start to a career? Not really. I got lucky with the entry level job I recently got, but it will be much harder for others.

yep

Yes, I would recommend this program to others.

Good program, quick to complete, and overall good classes and professors. Would recommend.

It was overall a good program.

I would, but with warnings to avoid some of the professors in this program if at all possible.

The online component is smooth and the content is current.

I already have recommended it to many colleagues and friends. In spite of my grievances, I liked the program waste of money and time.

n/a

I think the program was great. And more affordable than many others.

I would absolutely recommend this program, and have already done so!

I really enjoyed the program and I have heard that it's better than Albanys, and equivalent to Syracuse, but cheaper.

I would recommend this program for others looking to enter the information and library science field. It was a great program to be in.

This is a great program that's affordable!

I would definitely recommend this program. It was flexible but challenging. It seems like it is a very valuable masters degree.

I would love to be an ambassador for UB and the MS-ILS program in any way I can! Whether reaching out to prospective students or helping current students secure internships and jobs.

Affordable.

I recommend this program to all my teacher friends.

I would only recommend it for school librarians or anyone who doesn't want to go public.

While many of the courses did provide helpful information for becoming a public librarian, some of the others were definitely geared toward a research or academic librarian (or other specializations). These courses were not particularly helpful for someone going into public librarianship, and it would have been nice to see more public service-type courses offered.

I have already done so.

N/A

---

I would strongly recommend this program to others. It was an absolutely amazing experience and I feel extremely well-prepared to take on the professional dimension of LIS.

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n/a

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As mentioned previously, I would like to see more practice added. Less theory.

---

Good if you need the credential and already have professional experience. I would say, though, that four of your courses: YA librarianship, Children's Librarianship, Multicultural Lit, and Diversity are all pretty much doing the same thing. And, you should be actively hiring more PoC to teach your adjunct courses, people who actually have the lived experience to say why diversity and equity is needed in the field. Plus it would show you're actually dedicated to supporting these professionals. I would also say the department needs, across the board, to apply more theory, especially Critical Race Theory, when discussing these topics. We're assuming people have the foundation to express why these texts and practices are important, but not actually naming and applying the theory. I've heard this criticism before about UB's programs, and wasn't surprised. We need more in-depth learning, not just a list of titles we read and talk about what we learned and how great they are, like we're in high school.

---

Quality classes and professors- I would say with the exception of a few classes that were required but did not fit my current needs/ interests, this program offered a lot

---

It was a good program but I hope other people get to be better advised than I was.

## What were the major strengths of your program?

What were the major strengths of your program?

enjoyed all my classes.

A major strength of this program was the amazing professors that I had. They were so passionate about what they do and they made learning fun. I also enjoyed the variety of classes that were offered.

Tied together a lot of the different knowledge area experiences I had in undergrad. Got my foot in the door at a library job. Has given me a lot of perspective on libraries and information

Online

There are several key professors who were significant and should be provided with special recognition: Christopher Hollister - the BEST professor in the program! The most responsive, supportive and knowledgeable. Always positive and provided feedback in a positive way. Recorded sessions made me feel like I was actually in the classroom with him, which I only wish I could have been. Toni Olivas I know was a guest professor but their knowledge and experience and ability to take me out of my comfort zone and identify my own biases re: diversity, equity and inclusion was an incredible learning experience. Dr. Brenda White - fantastic! Well organized and the content is very clearly laid out and scaffolds nicely.

Flexible classes

Good faculty, great advisor, Listserv with great job offers, and overall interesting and informative courses.

I will be able to be New York State certified at the end of it.

Let us know what the librarians need to be like and what might happen once you are in a library or museum system. Let us see that LIS is more than just what we see on the surface.

My favorite class was information for teens and Young Adults! Such a great class I got a lot out of

Pedagogical aspects, resources for young adults/children, the technology portions. Any class I took with Susan Allen was fair, relevant and prepared me for the field.

The services courses. The children's programs and services, the YA programs and services, reference information and services. These were really interesting courses with really great instructors. And that is really what my time in this program has come down to. The instructors who were the most engaging and offered differentiated instruction and really cared about their students were the ones that I learned the most from.

Most Professors (shout out to Dr. B) were highly organized and consistent in their online approach, from class to class, and unit to unit, which made the program predictable and smooth.

I liked variety of available courses Entirely online

Price

It was easy.

Amazing instructors and awesome interaction with other students, Blackboard site relatively easy to use

Nothing

Professional connections. Up to date concepts.

I found the major strengths to be something that wasn't even officially school sponsored -- the students created a Discord channel and I thought that was one of the best parts of the entire program. Because we're all online, it is difficult to really connect with your peers, and I loved having that discord as an option.

My professors. They were all excellent. I felt like I experienced a good balance of theoretical knowledge of information behavior/practice and learning practical skills.

---

The major strengths in my program were in my interactions with faculty, who were extremely experienced and always willing to share their wisdom. I also found great value in the completion of a practicum, which I was able to complete as part of my program.

---

My major strengths were the assignments I

---

Not having to use textbooks and getting access to research and articles.

---

Major strengths of the program included taking foundational courses, specialized courses, and producing a portfolio at the end of the program.

---

Faculty consists of librarians with years of experience.

---

The flexibility of the courses with per-recorded lectures and zooms. Along with the helpfulness of professors and staff.

---

Everything! A well-rounded and practical education geared toward preparing graduates well for the LIS field as LIS professionals.

---

A wide range of and flexible courses.

---

It's the most affordable in NYS. Easy to get into and pass through.

---

Fully online, responsiveness of faculty and course instructors

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Excellent and accessible faculty; I was impressed with both their instruction and their own research and publishing output.

---

Strong Feedback from Professors

---

Being able to connect with and learn from my peers and professors. They broadened my perspective of the LIS field.

---

Accessibility that online learning provides

---

I think you have some faculty that approach learning in an exciting way. Some (mentioned in the suggestions for improvement) really present their area of specialty as an exciting option to pursue as a career.

---

Major strengths were moments where we were learning foundational theory and when I was learning skills like database management and new programs to carry into my field. Great professors who were compassionate to our situations and gave us grace to get things done. People who used mostly online resources to run the class instead of buying expensive, out-of-date textbooks.

---

Dr. White

---

Content, friendly professors, online program

## Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

---

no.

---

Please see previous comments.

---

More nuts and bolts type stuff should be required, like the activities in Dr. Sun has in her classes. Metadata work, XML and HTML would be highly beneficial.

---

idk

---

Would have enjoyed a course specific to Business, similar to the Health Information course, subject specific courses are relevant as students may move on to these areas and the ability to learn specific subject resources etc. would be helpful. Would be great to have an opportunity to move on and take or add in other courses upon completion of the Masters Degree. There are other courses I am interested in however, I do not want to explore a PhD. I would like to take some other courses that could be used towards an advanced certificate or some other accreditation.

---

Professors need to do more than assign readings and comments. If we're supposed to be leaders in the field of instruction, we need to start at home.

---

Wider variety of courses? More specializing in archives/special collections. Also a lot of information in some of the courses is assumed to be known by the students. In my first semester there was a lot of simple information that I needed to research on my own because it was just assumed I would already know about it, but I was completely new to the field. I guess just don't assume that everyone has the same knowledge and maybe spend more time defining parameters of LIS in the intro courses.

---

I suggest that the required courses for the school librarianship degree be changed. There were many courses that have no connection to what a school librarian does and they are a waste of time and money. There should be more education courses. Knowing how to do research, or write a paper, or take notes, or search databases doesn't mean you can teach it.

---

Having better access to the programs that the libraries use to catalog and possibly make it easier to access them outside that particular semester. Also, please don't remove the past semesters from UBlearns. (is it the blackboard program that does it?)

---

No!

---

The "core courses" were useless for preparing me for school librarianship. Research methods especially was a waste of my time, and graded way too hard.

---

I would suggest moving away from multiple discussion board posts every single week in some classes. It just feels forced and like a waste of time after a certain point. I would also get rid of the Research Methods class as a core class. My chosen field is a public library and I felt like what I learned in that course wasn't nearly as useful as what I learned in some other courses. I would also try and add a course for adult programs and services.

---

The research class with [name] was awfully organized and was more geared toward a Ph.D. program. The one mental meltdown I had in this program was in that class.

---

Not really. Maybe let students create their own Plans of Study. Had I been granted that responsibility, I would've made sure I could get into the courses I most wanted to

---

More classes pertaining to technical skills as a librarian

---

Stop letting [name] teach classes. [They're] awful.

---

Certain instructors need to be better at using course technology

actually have high standards. This is undergrad stuff.

---

More variation of course structure and concepts. Many of the courses felt very repetitive to themselves and other courses.

---

Please, please, please require all of your teaching staff to use UB Learns when it comes to posting/submitting assignments and grades. A couple of professors in my time with the program used software such as Slack for all assignments and it caused myself (as well as my peers) to have unnecessary stress and difficulty completing the work.

---

I would love to see local meetups for online students. Not sure if that's possible.

---

My only suggestion would be to offer more classes! I enjoyed the variety in the course options.

---

Maybe some of the professors can be a little more detailed on some of the assignments so it is clear what they are expecting.

---

A course about citations, copyright, and plagiarism, etc... The history of and application. Why? This is Library Science, I completely expected to learn more about citations, and then I didn't.

---

As mentioned under the advisement question, a general list of which courses to take for different career paths would be helpful. This could be listed under the MS Program Pathway in UB Learns.

---

More professional development/career training.

---

I do not have any suggestions.

---

Not really. It's already a great program. Maybe more interaction (Zoom meetings, informal discussions, etc.) among instructors and students.

---

I would like the ePortfolio process to begin in the second-to-last semester to enable students more time to work on it. Or having it available for students to include their graded assignments at the end of every semester. It is less stressful this way.

---

Make a separate track for public librarians or offer more classes geared toward them. Program is far too skewed toward info science and school librarianship.

---

Offer more options for public librarians. Offer a dedicated course for including people (especially children) in public libraries. Offer courses in required areas of study more frequently Update the course options in the plan of study documents to accurately reflect the offering of courses Offer more courses in the fall semesters and not have them so Spring heavy

---

Eliminate the need for a portfolio; it feels redundant.

---

N/A

---

I think the 3 required courses could be altered, especially LIS575. Being prepared to conduct research is optional, not all library positions require it. For example, it is not required when working in public librarianship. I felt as if another course similar to the other two would have been more beneficial and applicable to all types of librarianship.

---

More archives and special collections classes!

---

I mentioned several items in my other comments: No group work, less lecture & more variety (look to Christopher V Hollister, Amy VanScoy & Marie Elia for instructional design. They had the best courses which offered variety in weekly activities. Plus, they are passionate about their specific areas. I would never have considered scholarly publishing or archives as exciting until I took their courses! I still have readings from those courses saved to either read when I have time).

---

Incorporate more critical theory in your courses to make it feel like a graduate-level program. Teach people how to publish if they're heading in the academic direction.

---

Better instructions and guidance on lectures for LIS575

Better advising. Better employment preparedness. Forced interactions with classmates that lead to classmates over stepping boundaries after the project is over.

## How did you find out about the MS/MLS program at UB?

How did you find out about the MS/MLS program at UB?

a friend went there.

Google search; Reddit

Google

online

CLA list of Education and Training for MLS.

Family member

Undergrad at UB

I already had my MLS from UB and was attending for my MS in School Librarianship

I found this program looking through the internet and other master program searches.

My aunt told me about this program

Website.

A coworker at my former job was getting her MLS through UB when I was looking at master's programs and she told me about it.

Googling!

Through the Music Librarian Association website

Online

I researched programs near me.

My coworker at my old job was an alumnus, recommended it to me

from UB

Family friend.

I live in Rochester, NY, so it wasn't much of a stretch for me.

Probably through the ALA website.

The program was recommended to me by a former supervisor, who is himself an information professional.

On the list of accredited programs on the ALA website.

A coworker of mine did the program.

I found out about this program through librarians who work for SUNY Fredonia's Reed Library.

Google searching schools that offered MLS.



I was looking for an online degree in library science. It seemed perfect because I live in Buffalo and wanted to also volunteers or obtain a position in the library or archives.

---

A man who had worked as a research librarian at Cornell University and knew of the program from people who worked under him.

---

Network/web.

---

It was where everyone at my jobs went.

---

Web search for NY ALA accredited programs

---

I searched for ALA-accredited online-only MLIS programs and UB best fit my needs.

---

N/A

---

I found out from my advisor in college. A student of his did this program and really enjoyed it.

---

An alumni

---

I am an undergraduate of UB.

---

It certainly got me the degree I needed and the online format was perfect during the pandemic. I can say I've been through ore rigorous programs, though.

---

Live in the area

---

I grew up in Buffalo but also had a friend that was going to be in the program.

## Why did you choose UB for the MS/MLS program?

Why did you choose UB for the MS/MLS program?

cost, online program.

ALA-accredited; in NY; cost

Online asynchronous, I am also local so it was the first place I checked

idk

It was fully online. As someone who works full time I needed a program I could take on a part time basis and online

Did not require practicum, had already moved remotely before pandemic

Local, affordable, and familiar with the school.

It's local

I chose this program because it worked with what I was planning on becoming in the future and allowed me to learn what I needed without being at the University.

It was inexpensive, and I loved that I was able to do it at my own pace and from the comfort of my home. Especially during the pandemic

It's where I went for undergrad, so I felt comfortable with UB.

Because it was cheaper than a private school, it was online, and you accepted the MAT instead of the GRE. Both a waste of time if we're being honest, but I get that you had to because of state policies or whatnot. But the MAT was cheaper and didn't take as long. That was the deciding factor between UB and U Albany

I went to a SUNY for undergrad and it was relatively nearby. The SUNY system uses similar online systems, so I thought I would be familiar. It was an accredited program too.

Specifically for music librarianship courses - which i wasn't even able to take Also it was extremely affordable! And offered asynchronous courses

I intend to one day work in an academic or public library

Money. It was the cheapest program I got into and

State school with a good, well known program

easy

Cost-efficient.

see above.

I wanted an affordable online program that was ALA accredited. I spent nearly fifteen years paying off my undergraduate loans and didn't want to repeat that. This program allowed me to keep working full time and do coursework at the same time.

I chose UB for the coursework offered, the online nature of the program, and the fact that I, as a NYS resident, qualified for discounted tuition.

It was the most affordable program that accepted me. And I was accepted as a matriculated student.

It was all online, if I had to go in person well my parents live in Buffalo. My dad went to UB and it's cheaper than Syracuse.

---

I chose UB for the MLS program because it was a local online program.

---

UB is a SUNY school, which makes earning a master's affordable.

---

I started another masters program at UB and wanted to finish. This made me familiar with UB and I felt like it was the right choice. I also looked into other MLS programs and this one was the most cost effective.

---

At first, because it was September and I had to apply by November 1 to enroll for the spring semester and it was the only online program I knew about. In the long run, support and encouragement everywhere I turned - instructors, students, faculty, staff, etc.

---

Flexibility and affordability.

---

Most affordable

---

Lower tuition rate, excellent responsiveness of admissions, initial scholarship offer

---

The course offerings appealed to me, as well as the financial value.

---

Distance.

---

I chose it for it being online, asynchronous, and its wide variety of class options. I really enjoyed how students were able to tailor their path in the program to what they wanted to do in their careers.

---

Online learning was necessary for me during the pandemic, but I wanted to continue my education

---

I am a UUP member and could get SUNY tuition reimbursement.

---

It was local, and I didn't have to be online at a certain time for class, like other institutions. Basically I could do things at my own pace and could be left alone for the most part.

---

Live in the area

---

It was the only online program for this field. I needed to be online.

**Please provide any additional feedback for us below.**

Please provide any additional feedback for us below.

---

none.

---

N/A

---

It seems like some are moving away from them, but discussion board posts are truly horrible. It's just everyone in the class regurgitating the same talking points over and over. I'm not sure how to fix it, but I can tell you the way they are structured now isn't working and made me wanna tear my hair out more than any other part of this program.

---

nah

---

Exceptional program and can't believe it has come to an end. There are several professors I will miss because they were outstanding! They made the courses enjoyable and expanded my understanding and knowledge within the library field.

---

Would have loved some medical library classes

---

n/a

---

This really is not a good program as it is right now.

---

N/A

---

The only thing I have a problem with is my advisor. Everything else was great. I just wish my advisor had done more to support me and help me especially in figuring out my portfolio

---

N/A

---

I would have some of your instructors who have no background in education or teaching methods take some kind of course in that. Some of the adjuncts that taught some of my classes were phenomenally better than some of the professors with doctorates. I don't think that just having a doctorate is qualification enough to be a teacher and that was really reflected in some. Not all, but some were not good at instructing.

---

Professors should read their feedback forms and implement changes.

---

N/a

---

Staff are friendly

---

no

---

N/A

---

this was the worst decision I've made. The dept is toxic, the students inane, and the professors abusive towards students.

---

N/A

---

n/a

---

na

---

N/A

Maybe make the portfolio due a few days after the semester that you are graduating.

---

Overall a neat little program, I felt a little rushed through it because I had to take so many credits to be eligible for loans.

---

I don't have any other comments to submit at this time.

---

N/A.

---

I do not have additional feedback.

---

I think I've provided enough and gotten my point across!

---

Live zoom sessions have strongly supported my studies in LIS.

---

There needs to be more support for the actual work that librarians do. I have no confidence in my ability to maintain a collection, support the general public that we serve, etc. I wish I learned more for what I paid. Also, LIS 575 needs to change - it's far too intense for what the majority of us in the program need. Offer a lighter alternative that is actually applicable to librarians.

---

Provide more information about potential scholarships for graduate students each year; I did not discover the scholarship page until my final semester, after I had already paid for my tuition.

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N/A

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N/A

---

I have no further feedback other than to say how much I loved my time at UB.

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n/a

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N/A

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Shout-out to Dr. B and Dr. Nessel for being generally amazing, and to Dr. VanScoy for diving into the conversations on race that the university claims is so important to them. Would love to see more of that from the department.

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not as scary as I was anticipating when I started, returning for another master's at age 40 was daunting, but the staff, facility were wonderful and access to everything was very user-friendly!

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N/A