

IS Spring 2026 Course List

LIS 500LEC (22475) Special Topics in Information Technologies: Introduction to Data Science for LIS

Data science is a fast-growing field. In this course, students will learn basic concepts, techniques and tools of data science that are more and more important for all information-centric fields. The course will introduce data collection and integration, exploratory data analysis, predictive modeling, descriptive modeling, model interpretation and evaluation. Behaviors, organizations, policies, and society issues around data will also be discussed. The emphasis will be placed on integration and synthesis of concepts and their application to solving problems.

LIS 501 (22053) Special Topics in Info Management: Practical Cataloging

This course is an introduction to cataloging and metadata work in libraries. We will learn about bibliographic models, standards, and procedures that assist in managing the description and access of resources in library collections. This course should be useful for those interested in the basics of cataloging and discovery, as well as foundational for those intending to work as catalogers and/or metadata specialists in libraries.

LIS 501 (23797) Special Topics in Info Management: Knowledge Management in Information Organizations

Explores the principles, practices, and strategies for creating, capturing, sharing, and applying knowledge in today's information-driven organization. The course examines knowledge management across libraries, archives, museums, corporations, nonprofits, and government agencies, highlighting its role in innovation, decision-making, and organizational performance. Students will engage with real-world tools and case studies to design practical solutions for knowledge capture, organization, and transfer. By the end, participants will be equipped to apply KM concepts directly to professional practice, ensuring impact across all facets of the information economy.

LIS 503LEC (19921) Special Topics in information & Library Science: History of the Book

This course introduces students to a diverse range of topics and perspectives in the history of the book, expanding beyond the intellectual content of the books into the social, political, and technological forces that shaped the book as a cultural artifact and a physical object. Topics covered will include the early writing and printing systems, literacy and the dissemination of print material, the politics of gathering book materials, the roles of books in religious and social movements, censorship and intellectual freedom, and how digital book formats built on their legacies.

LIS 518LEC (15363 & 20639) Reference Sources and Services

This course introduces the knowledge and skills necessary to provide professional information services to diverse users in a broad range of contemporary information environments. The course is designed for students with varying levels of skills and experience for a wide range of information professional career paths. The course covers interaction with users, development of search strategies, and analysis and use of general and specialized reference tools.

LIS 523LEC (17923) Information Literacy Instruction

LIS 523 introduces principles, theories, and practical applications of user education, including design, delivery, and assessment of information literacy methodologies and resources. Emphasis is given to current and effective teaching practices in a variety of library and information center environments.

Information literacy instruction (ILI) is a core public and educational service of libraries and is an increasingly critical one. It is a vibrant subfield of librarianship, filled with energetic librarians who are passionate about teaching and learning. A great deal of the abundant literature addresses ILI in academic libraries, but those interested in school or public libraries will have the opportunity to tailor their learning in this course for those settings. While this course will be challenging, my hope is that this immersion into ILI will excite and engage you, and show you the possibilities of this aspect of librarianship.

LIS 532LEC (12705) Curriculum Role of the Media Specialist

This course examines the curricular role of the school's library media program. By means of clinical experiences, students learn from practitioners in a school library in their geographical area. A student-centered approach is used to design information literacy lesson plans and assess student learning outcomes based upon the Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) and AASL's Standards for the 21st Century Learner as well as other research-based inquiry models. Students engage in an interactive professional community and receive feedback from practitioners and peers. Discussions focus on problem solving, collection development, curriculum design, CCLS, AAPR, and instructional methods.

LIS 535LEC (12729 & 19750) Resources and Services for Young Adults

A study of literature and other media produced for young adults. Includes an introduction to adolescent psychology, lifestyles, and interests and how these impact young adults and their reading/viewing habits. Students will learn to evaluate and promote materials according to their various uses, both personal and curricular, and according to the needs of individual young adults.

LIS 536LEC (21161 & 22984) Inclusive and Accessible Services and Collections for Young People

This course is designed for participants to develop a range of skills, knowledge, and tools to create and deliver inclusive and accessible library services and collections for young people. Activities will also include developing inclusive library programming.

LIS 560LEC (18810) Emerging Technology in Library Studies

Library and information professionals are often required to learn and determine how emerging technologies can best be used to meet client needs. This class will guide students in examining technology trends of the 21st century such as mobility, openness, and literacy. Students will examine how emerging technologies promote new ways of thinking about information and productivity. Students will be expected to be familiar with IT and online instruction.

LIS 565LEC (21550) Information Retrieval

This course provides an introduction to information retrieval. Students will learn about theories and techniques for automatically processing, storing, and retrieving documents. Topics include indexing data structures and algorithms, retrieval models (geometric, logic-based, and probabilistic), query languages, search user interfaces, methods of system evaluation, and ethical issues, such as bias, censorship, and privacy. Students will apply their knowledge to a number of domains, for example: conversational search, digital libraries, multimedia search, recommender systems, and search engines.

LIS 568LEC (17316) Computer Applications in the School Library Media Center

This course focuses on state-of-the-art technologies used to enhance productivity, efficiency, and collaboration in teaching information literacy and managing a school library. A student-centered approach is used to employ effective strategies and techniques in the field. An interactive Center professional community is employed as candidates collect feedback from K-12 students and practitioners. Discussions focus on the role of technology, computer applications, and emergent technologies in the context of school libraries.

LIS 569LEC (17635) Database Systems

Study of microcomputer-based data management techniques and systems, including evaluation of software packages, for the organization, manipulation, and retrieval of information. Examination of relational database techniques such as sorting, searching, indexing, report generation, and data transfer using DBMS command language. Projects include development of a working system.

LIS 571LEC (15364) Information Organization

Introduces students to the nature and structure of information. It lays the theoretical foundation for understanding and applying a range of concepts and techniques for creating and using traditional, modern, and future information systems, from paper libraries to linked data. It covers the conceptual structures in the organization of data, information, knowledge, language, and text. It introduces major knowledge organization systems and metadata systems and guides students in their practical application in cataloging library and other materials, both paper and digital, and in searching many different information sources. The course emphasizes the importance of user requirements in designing information systems. It has students analyze cultural, linguistic, and gender biases that hinder equity of access.

LIS 581LEC (20125 & 22985) Management of Libraries and Information Agencies

Explores management theory and practice applicable to varied information agencies at the supervisory, middle, and top management level through lecture, case studies, problem analysis, role playing, and course assignments. Connection to and sustainability within communities through evidence-based decision-making, planning and advocacy is emphasized. Equal opportunity employment guidelines and diversity in employment and in the people served are discussed.

LIS 585LEC (12606 & 20665) Management of School Library Media Centers

This course focuses on the leadership and management of school libraries. Through clinically-based experiences in a school library in their area, students are exposed to a variety of methods used to evaluate the effectiveness of a school library's programs, services, budget, policies and procedures. Students study leadership in the context of advocating for the school library program at the local, state, and national levels. National and state school library standards are used as a framework for understanding the components of an effective, quality school media program.

LIS 586LEC (21163) Health Science Librarianship

This course is designed to introduce the unique aspects of health sciences librarianship, providing real-life examples of how it differs from typical career tracks in the library sciences. Topics covered by the course will include health sciences librarianship careers in academia as well as in the clinical/hospital setting, biomedical databases and sources, research questions from clinicians as well as consumers, scholarly communications issues in health sciences librarianship, and evidence-based practice (and how librarians can be involved). Students taking the course will be required to participate in weekly discussion board conversations, a graded exercise using biomedical databases, creating an instruction video, and a final project

LIS 587LEC (16263 & 19749) Collection Management

Investigates current and traditional approaches to collection development in libraries of all kinds. Topics considered include: philosophic and ethical foundations; strategies for defining community needs and collection goals; formulation of collection development policies; approaches to materials selection and acquisition; collection evaluation; problem materials and censorship; interlibrary cooperation, resource sharing, and document delivery systems; collection maintenance, preservation, and management; and impact of new technologies.