SCHOOL OF INFORMATION SCIENCE AND POLICY

Faculty
Dean
Peter A. Bloniarz, Ph.D. (Collins Fellow)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Professors
Stephen E. DeLong, Ph.D. (Collins Fellow)
University of Texas at Austin
Carol Doll, Ph.D.
University of Illinois
Philip B. Eppard, Ph.D.
Brown University
Associate Professors
Hemalata Iyer, Ph.D.
University of Mysore, India
Assistant Professors
Deborah Lines Anderson, Ph.D.
University at Albany
Thomas P. Mackey, Ph.D.
University at Albany
Terrence A. Maxwell, Ph.D.
University at Albany
William J. McIver, Ph.D.
University of Colorado, Boulder
Lokman I. Meho, M.S.
North Carolina Central University
Joette Stefl-Mabry, Ph.D.
Long Island University
Huahai Yang, Ph.D.
University of Michigan
Adjunct Faculty
Theodor J. Borys, M.S.
University at Albany
Meredith A. Butler, M.A./M.L.S.
Ohio State University/Syracuse University
Guy J. Cortesi, Ph.D.
University at Albany
Jennifer G. Powers, Ph.D.
University at Albany
Adjuncts (estimated): 6
Teaching Assistants (estimated): 0

Professional courses in information science and policy are usually taken on the graduate level. However, as a means of providing undergraduate students with information and library skills which may be of value in their studies or for the purpose of providing a general introduction to the field, a number of programs are available to undergraduates. These include a Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Major in Information Science and a combined B.A./M.L.S. or B.S./M.L.S. program. Both of these programs are described below in greater detail.

The school offers a broad program of study which prepares students for careers as information management specialists in corporate, governmental and public service agencies, or as librarians, media specialists and information professionals in schools, public libraries, colleges, and other organizations concerned with providing reference, research, recreational resources, and information services. Undergraduate students contemplating a career in this field are encouraged to review professional opportunities and undergraduate preparation for admission to graduate study with the school's administrative staff. Interested students should also consult graduate bulletin or the web page (http://www.albany.edu/sisp/ba/) describing the school's programs and faculty.

Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Major with a Concentration in Information Science

The School of Information Science and Policy has developed a Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Major with a Concentration in Information Science with other faculty in Computer Science, Communication, Linguistics and Cognitive Science, Philosophy and Psychology. The major is concerned with five curricular strands: characteristics and properties of information; the flow of information from its origination to utilization; personal, economic, political and social value of information; the cognitive, intellectual and technological structures that govern information transfer; the public and private organizational environments where information exchange has taken place.

Admission: Students must obtain the approval of the program director before they can officially declare this Faculty-initiated interdisciplinary program as their major.

Degree Requirements for the Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Major with a Concentration in Information Science

General Program B.A. A minimum of 46 credits including a 31 credit core: A Csi 201N; R Isp 100, 301, 361, 433, 499Z; A Mat 108 (or substitute statistics course from the list below); A Psy 101M or 102M; A Lin 220M; A Phi 210L.

3 credits from: A Lin 321, 322, 325, 499 (when 499 topic appropriate)
3 credits from: A Psy 270, 380, 381, 382
9 credits from: A Csi 203, 204, 205, 310; 416, B Msi 215 (*or* A Csi 101), B Msi 330; R Isp 423, 424

A Mat 108 substitutes: R Crj 281, A Eco 320, A Psy 210, A Soc 221

The following undergraduate courses offered by the School of Information Science and Policy are considered liberal arts and science courses for purposes of degree requirements for the B.A. or B.S. degrees: R Isp 100, 301, 361, and 499Z. Courses listed in this section are preceded by the school's letter R.

Combined B.A./M.L.S. or B.S./M.L.S. Program

The combined B.A./M.L.S. or B.S./M.L.S. program in information science and policy provides a unique opportunity for capable, highly motivated students to pursue any undergraduate liberal arts major while at the same time beginning their professional preparation for a career in the rapidly expanding information management fields. The emphasis of the program is on the planning, provision and administration of information systems and services in libraries and information centers. A distinctive feature of the curriculum is the stress placed upon user and human as well as technological factors. Students will be able to combine academic study with work experience in a locally based major corporation's information handling facility such as IBM, GE, or a college and university, public, hospital, newspaper, school, bank or law library in the tri-city area (Albany, Troy, Schenectady).

Graduates will be prepared for employment in a wide variety of public and private sector settings within business, industry, law, humanities, health and human services, and education where they will function as librarians, information systems specialists, information analysts or information officers and managers.

The school is especially strong in five areas: (1) information and public policy, (2) reference resources and processes, (3) archives/records administration, (4) indexing and abstracting, and (5) data storage technologies.

Students may be admitted to the combined program at the beginning of their junior year or after successful completion of 56 credits, but no later than the accumulation of 100 credits. A carefully designed program can enable the student to earn the B.A. or B.S. and M.L.S. within 10 semesters. A cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher and three supportive letters of recommendation are required. The Graduate Record Exam is not required for admission. In qualifying for the baccalaureate, students will meet all University and school requirements, including existing major and minor requirements, general education requirements, minimum liberal arts and sciences requirements, and residency requirements.

Additionally, students will complete a minor in information science and policy including, as a minimum, the following courses: A Csi 201, R Isp 601, R Isp 603, R Isp 605, R Isp 611, and an elective R Isp course.

In qualifying for the master's degree, students will meet all University and school requirements, including completing a minimum of 42 graduate credits, and any conditions such as a research seminar, thesis, comprehensive examination, or other professional experience, and residency requirements. The combined program allows students to complete 12 graduate credits as an undergraduate that are

applied to both the undergr aduate and graduate degrees.

Students will be considered as undergraduates until completion of 120 graduation credits and satisfactory completion of all B.A. or B.S. requirements. Upon meeting the baccalaureate requirements, students will automatically be considered as graduate students.

Courses

R Isp 100 Internet and Information Access (3)
Introduction to the Internet and World Wide Web. Information literacy in technology and online information resources. Using, finding, evaluating, and producing information on the Internet. [IL]

R Isp 301 The Information Environment (3)
Introduction to information science. Definitions and properties of information, production, transfer, classification, formatting, evaluation, and use. Role of information organizations including the print and electronic publishing, traditional and digital libraries and archives. [IL]

R Isp 361 Web Development (3)
Design and development of producing information for the world wide web. Lectures include the basic program languages for web development and web-authoring software. Design, planning, security, administration and management of web sites will also be examined.

R Isp 395 Internet Practicum (3-6)
The course provides students the opportunity to work as a teaching aide and lab assistant in information science. Students will hold weekly lab assistant hours, monitor and respond to student questions on the class listserv, and provide feedback to the course instructor. May be repeated for credit up to a total of 6 credits with permission of school. Prerequisite(s): a grade of *B* or higher in R Isp 100 and permission of instructor. *S/U* graded.

R Isp 423 Networking Essentials (3)
Covers the fundamentals of computer networking concepts and implementation and the client and server operating systems that run on networked PCs. Special emphasis is placed on network protocols and how they operate at all layers of the networking model. Emphasis also is placed on the interoperability of networks that run on multiple protocols, platforms, and operating systems.

R Isp 424 Hardware and Operating Systems Essentials (3)
Covers the fundamentals of personal computer internal system components, storage systems, and peripheral devices, including problems associated with them and the procedures for servicing them.

R Isp 433 Information Storage and Retrieval (3)
Methods of analyzing, storing, retrieving information and their relationship to perceived costs and benefits in information service.

R Isp 468 Internship in Information Science (3-6)
Supervised field placement in a public or private organizational environment where information exchange takes place. Requires preparation of biweekly reports and a major project. **Internships are open only to qualified juniors and seniors who have an overall grade point average of 2.50 or higher.** Concurrent registration in R Isp 499 is required. *S/U* graded.

R Isp 469 Independent Study & Policy (1-3)
Student-initiated research policy under faculty guidance. May be repeated for credit up to a total of 6 credits with permission of school. R Isp 469Z is the writing intensive version of RIsp 469. Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor. *S/U* graded.

R Isp 469Z Independent Study & Policy (1-3)
Student-initiated research policy under faculty guidance. May be repeated for credit up to a total of 6 credits with permission of school. RIsp 469Z is the writing intensive version of RIsp 469. Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor. *S/U* graded. [WI]

R Isp 499Z Senior Seminar in Information Science (3)
Development of professional skills in information science. This course includes development of student presentation skills including interviewing, web development, resume, and oral presentation skills. Prerequisite(s): Information Science major. [OD, WI]

Graduate Courses

Please note that the graduate course described below are available only to students who meet certain criteria. Please consult the academic rules and regulations portion of this bulletin for the rules governing when an undergraduate may enroll in a graduate course.

R Isp 501 History of Books and Printing (3)
History of the development of books and libraries from ancient times to the present in relation to the society of which they were a part. May not be offered in 2004-2005.

R Isp 523 Fundamentals of Information Technology (1–6)
This course consists of three five-week modules teaching basic skills in information management. Topics include: introduction to programming, data structures, and overview of data base applications. In addition, students may elect up to three additional modules chosen from topics such as UNIX and networking, UNIX software development tools (for students who already have significant prior programming), introduction to programming in C, and new direction in information science.

R Isp 546 Fundamentals of Record Management (3)
Basic concepts and practices of records management in governmental, institutional, and corporate agencies, including those areas of communication, administration and computer technology that relate to the efficient and effective flow of information from its generation to its final disposition. Includes records inventory, active and inactive records control, manual and automated systems, vital records protection, the records center, micrographics technology and applications, and legal and ethical aspects of records management.

R Isp 554 Contemporary Publishing (3)
Structure and problems of the publishing industry (including print and nonprint materials); production and distribution systems and their implications for libraries and other information agencies; legal and economic aspects and technological developments.

R Isp 560 Information and Public Policy (3)
Analysis and evaluation of public policies affecting the production, dissemination, and access to information generated by or for the federal government. Topics and issues include concepts of intellectual freedom, the public's right to be informed, freedom of information and privacy legislation, policies on dissemination of information in nonprint formats, national security classification, privatizing of government information, issues of equity, and related policy matters.

R Isp 562 Economics of Information Management (3)
Principles and theory of economics of managing libraries, archives and other information services. Provides students with the tools of cost benefit, regression and applied microeconomic analysis necessary for management of information systems and information services. The library user fee debate, the economics of journal subscription prices and costs and benefits of on-line searching are examined. May not be offered in 2004-2005.

R Isp 571 Literature for Children (3)
Introductory survey of literature for children with emphasis on twentieth-century authors and illustrators. Problems and trends in writing and publishing. Class discussion and written critical evaluations based on extensive readings.

R Isp 578 Literature for Young Adults (3)
Introductory survey of literature for young adults (ages thirteen through eighteen) with emphasis on authors from the latter half of the twentieth-century. Includes characteristics, needs, and reading interests of teenagers, critical study of the literature, an overview of basic selection tools, and practice in booktalking.

R Isp 601 The Information Environment (3)
The evolving social, political and institutional environments within which information services are and can be organized.

R Isp 603 Information Processing (3)
The nature of documents, their bibliographic description, indexing and classification. Controlled and natural vocabularies for document access. Major taxonomies. Information retrieval theory.

R Isp 605 Information Sources and Services (3)
Consideration of reference/information services, the types of knowledge, the kinds of formats in which knowledge is recorded, and the ways in which it is pursued and retrieved.

R Isp 611 Information Systems and Technology Applications (3)
Introduction to information systems and dominant supportive technologies. Emphasis on reprography (printing, replication, micrographic processes,) computing and communications. Applications to library/ information systems administration, technical services, reference services, document delivery systems.

R Isp 633 Information Storage and Retrieval (3)
Methods of analyzing, storing, and retrieving information and their relationship to perceived costs and benefits in information service. Prerequisite: R Isp 603. Recommended: RIsp 607.

R Isp 640 Abstracting and Indexing (3)
Characteristics and applications of abstracts and indexes and techniques for their creation. Impact and implications of recent technology. Recommended: R Isp 603. May not be offered in 2004-2005.

R Isp 658 Microcomputer Database Development (3)
Database principles for microcomputers, with emphasis on relational database management systems (DBMS) for applications development in the library and information fields. Database design, creation, and maintenance: the user interface; programming concepts. Creation of the working database system.