

## LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

### William A. Caynon, Interim Director

314 Library  
(330) 672-2782  
wcaynon@kent.edu

### Mary T. Kim, Coordinator of Graduate Studies

226 Library  
(614) 292-7746  
mkim@kent.edu

The school offers a graduate program, accredited by the American Library Association, which leads to a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) degree. An American Library Association-accredited master's degree is the basic requirement for professional employment in most libraries and information centers.



The School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) prepares students for positions of leadership in librarianship and the information professions. The master's and advanced certificate programs emphasize the preparation of students for professional service in academic, public, special and school libraries and other types of information agencies.

For more information about the School of Library and Information Science, prospective students may request an information packet by writing to the School of Library and Information Science or by consulting the school's Web site at <http://www.slis.kent.edu>.

### Master of Library and Information Science

#### ADMISSION

Applicants who have an undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or higher are considered for regular admission. Applicants who do not meet the grade point average requirements must submit scores on the Graduate Record Examination to be considered for conditional admission. All undergraduate courses, including postbaccalaureate classes, are considered in the calculation of the undergraduate grade point average. International students, whose first language is not English, must achieve a TOEFL score of 600 or higher to be considered for regular admission.

Prospective students should complete the application process no later than January 15 for admission for the summer and no later than March 15 for the fall semester. For further details on admission procedures and deadlines, prospective students should consult the school's Web site at <http://www.slis.kent.edu>.

#### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Library and Information Science degree requires a minimum of 36 hours. All MLIS students must take four core courses: LIS 60001, LIS 60002, LIS 60600 and LIS 60604. Students are encouraged to complete the core requirements during their first 18 hours of enrollment. In addition, all students must choose between a 3-hour culminating experience (LIS 60670) or a 6-hour master's thesis to meet degree requirements.

Students must also select at least one elective from each of these areas: (1) Access to Information, (2) Organization and Representation of Knowledge, and (3) Administration and Management.

Access to Information electives include LIS 60601, LIS 60606, LIS 60611, LIS 60612, LIS 60620, LIS 60621, LIS 60622, LIS 60623, LIS 60625, LIS 60626, LIS 60628, LIS 60629, LIS 60630 and LIS 60643.

Organization and Representation of Knowledge electives include LIS 60602, LIS 60603, LIS 60611, LIS 60624, LIS 60641, LIS 60646 and LIS 60649.

Administration and Management electives include LIS 60607, LIS 60608, LIS 60610, LIS 60613, LIS 60615, LIS 60616, LIS 60640,

LIS 60644, LIS 60652, LIS 60654 and LIS 60661.

The Graduate Program Statement Form, available at <http://www.sliskent.edu>, provides the complete list of electives, including LIS 61095 Selected Topics courses, which have been approved for each of the three areas.

### Multiple Degrees Option

A master's degree in a subject area in addition to the master's degree in library and information science is a desirable credential for some kinds of professional employment, especially in large research institutions. Students may apply to a second master's degree program offered by Kent State University and work simultaneously or sequentially on the two degrees.

Courses may be shared between the two degrees, as determined by the graduate department(s), but in no case may they exceed 12 credit hours. Two exceptions to this limit within the school are the Master of Library and Information Science/Master of Business Administration dual-degree option and the Master of Library and Information Science/Master of Information Architecture and Knowledge Management multiple degrees option.

### Master of Library and Information Science and Master of Business Administration

The Master of Library and Information Science and Master of Business Administration dual-degree program is designed for managers of large libraries and information centers. Individuals in these positions need knowledge pertaining to planning, organizing, staffing, directing and controlling. Advanced education to obtain knowledge and learn skills related to these management functions enables students to take advantage of career opportunities in both library settings and other information settings, in both the profit and nonprofit sector.

Students apply to both the School of Library and Information Science and to the Graduate School of Management. Each program makes an independent admission decision. Admission is determined based upon undergraduate grade point average, strong performance on the Graduate Record Examination, three letters of reference, and an essay regarding the applicant's career direction.

Students may doubly count up to 28 hours in the Master of Library and Information Science and Master of Business Administration dual-degree option. For specifics about the curriculum for this program, please see the College of Business Administration section of the graduate schools catalog.

### Master of Library and Information Science and Master of Science in Information Architecture and Knowledge Management

Prospective students interested in a multidisciplinary approach to graduate studies in the information-related disciplines and professions may also consider pursuing the Master of Library and Information Science and Master of Science in Information Architecture and Knowledge Management multiple degrees option. Administered through the School of Library and Information Science, the Master of Science degree in Information Architecture and Knowledge Management is a flexible degree program which combines graduate courses from these major contributing faculties: the Department of Management and Information Systems, the Department of Computer Science, the School of Communication Studies, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the School of Library and Information Science and the School of Visual Communication and Design.

Students interested in this multiple degrees option must apply to both the Master's Program in Information Architecture and Knowledge Management and to the School of Library and Information Science. Each program makes an independent admission decision. If approved for admission by both the program and the school, students may doubly count up to 28 credits for each degree. The actual number of shared hours typically ranges from 21 to 28, depending on the area of concentration selected for each degree.

For further information about the Master of Science degree in Information Architecture and Knowledge Management or the multiple degrees option, please see the Information Architecture and Knowledge Management section of the graduate schools catalog or consult the program Web site at <http://iakm.kent.edu>.

### Master of Library and Information Science plus School Library Media Specialist Licensure

A course of study leading to the Master of Library and Information Science degree and multi-age licensure in school library media is offered in cooperation with the instructional technology program in the College of Education, Department of Educational Foundations and Special Services. The licensure program requires completion of at least 39 hours including 9 hours in instructional technology (ITEC) and LIS 60670, the culminating practicum. Conferral of a school library media specialist license also requires successful completion of the Praxis examination in library media. Candidates must also hold or be eligible for a teacher's license.

For additional details on the courses required for the MLIS/School of Library Media Specialist Licensure program, please refer to the Graduate Program Statement Form for School Library Media at <http://www.sliskent.edu>.

### Certificate of Advanced Study

The school offers a "sixth year" program as an opportunity for librarians and information specialists already in the field to update and upgrade professional skills. The program offers a multidisciplinary approach tailored to those who hold master's degrees in library and information science and are interested in expanding their professional skills in various areas of library and information science. A minimum of 24 graduate hours is required for the Certificate of Advanced Study in Library and Information Science, to be completed within four years.

Prospective students must hold a master's degree in library and information science from an institution accredited by the American Library Association (or equivalent degree from schools in other countries, in the case of international students). Ideally, advanced certificate students have had at least two years of professional experience since earning their master's degree.

### Certificate in New Media

The Certificate in New Media is an interdisciplinary program designed to prepare students in three primary areas of competence: literacy, design and production. Literacy courses explore communication skills, new media skills, new media understanding and the integration of emerging technology theory in applied settings. Courses in the design and production of new media explore conceptual processes of creating new media and develop a student's ability to author and implement the design of media in a variety of digital forms. Students must complete 16 hours of coursework for this certificate. This includes 7 hours of required coursework and a minimum of 9 hours from course electives. To be awarded a New Media Certificate, satisfactory evidence of competencies achieved must be demonstrated through a project completed for the portfolio review and evaluated by the new media faculty advisory committee. Elective courses must be selected from no fewer than three departments.

### Courses (LIS)

#### LIS 50693

#### **VARIABLE TITLE WORKSHOP — LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE (1-3)**

Maximum workshop credit accepted for MLIS degree is 4 semester hours. Intensive examination of special topics of interest to practicing librarians. Repeat registration permitted. S/U grading.

#### LIS 60001

#### **ACCESS TO INFORMATION (3)**

Examination of information access issues. Topics include discussion of information needs plus use of bibliographic and electronic records; automation and information technologies; computerized reference resources; reference tools (print, electronic, Internet and Web-based) and online computerized library catalog.

#### LIS 60002

#### **ORGANIZATION OF INFORMATION (3)**

Introduction to the theory and practice of organizing information in traditional libraries and in the Internet environment. Familiarity with principles, standards, tools and current systems relating to organization of information.

#### LIS 60199

#### **THESIS I (2-6)**

Thesis students must register for a total of 6 hours 2 to 6 hours in a single semester, distributed over several semesters if desired. S/U grading; IP permissible. Prerequisite: Candidacy status, LIS 60604 and director's approval.

#### LIS 60299

#### **THESIS II (2)**

Thesis students must continue registration each semester until all degree requirements are met. S/U grading; IP permissible. Prerequisite: LIS 60199.

#### LIS 60600

#### **FOUNDATIONS OF LIBRARIANSHIP (3)**

Social, philosophical and historical foundations; information technology and the library; types of libraries and services nationally and internationally; professional issues, research, literature, associations and education.

#### LIS 60601

#### **INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES (3)**

Introduction to use and evaluation of basic sources of reference information, computerized and noncomputerized; reference interview and question-negotiation techniques; administration of reference and information services. Prerequisite: LIS 60001. Special fee: \$20.

#### LIS 60602

#### **CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION I (3)**

Principles of cataloging with emphasis on Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress Classification systems, Library of Congress subject headings, online cataloging and administration. Prerequisite: LIS 60002. Special fee: \$20 per semester (subject to change).

**LIS 60603****CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION II (3)**

Theory and practice of providing description and access to library materials. Examples and assignments will be taken from all types of library materials, print and nonprint. Prerequisite: LIS 60002 and 60602. Special fee: \$20 per semester (subject to change).

**LIS 60604****RESEARCH FOR DECISION-MAKING IN LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTERS (3)**

Research techniques for collecting, analyzing and presenting data to decision-makers. Developing research proposals. Critical review of evaluation studies in library and information science. IP permissible. Prerequisite: 6 hours of LIS coursework.

**LIS 60606****ADVANCED REFERENCE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY (3)**

Reference service in support of research; creation of reference tools; study of foreign reference sources; select problems in reference service; introduction to historical bibliography. Prerequisite: LIS 60001 and 60601.

**LIS 60607****SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER (3)**

Services and administration of media centers in elementary and secondary schools. Prerequisite: LIS 60600 recommended.

**LIS 60608****THE PUBLIC LIBRARY (3)**

Analysis of the historical, sociopolitical, technological, fiscal and organizational factors affecting American public librarianship. Includes evaluation, planning, networking, funding, automation, buildings and censorship. Prerequisite: LIS 60600.

**LIS 60610****LIBRARY MANAGEMENT (3)**

Theories and principles of strategic planning applied to libraries (decision-making, budgeting, staff, marketing, evaluating). Impact of environmental and technological change in library structure and management.

**LIS 60611****GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS (3)**

Library treatment of U.S. government publications, with brief attention to municipal and state publications, and major documents of Great Britain, Canada and the United Nations. Will not include materials covered in LSCI 60601. Prerequisite: LIS 60001.

**LIS 60612****LIBRARY MATERIALS AND SERVICES FOR ADULTS (3)**

Recent investigations of group and individual reading habits; advisory services in various types of libraries; library programs for adult education; projection of library materials toward community.

**LIS 60613****INFORMATION USES AND SERVICES (3)**

Analysis of information and communication theory as it relates to adults' information needs and use; interface issues, electronic information resources and information use; technological methods for designing and using information systems, telecommunications and networks, and consideration of planned communication strategies. Prerequisite: LIS 60001 or permission.

**LIS 60614****SELECTION AND ACQUISITION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS (3)**

Factors affecting selection in public, academic, school and special libraries (reading habits, censorship, publishing trends); community analysis, selection policies and process; selection sources; acquisitions.

**LIS 60615****THE ACADEMIC LIBRARY (3)**

Governance, administration and services of libraries in institutions of postsecondary education. Prerequisite: LIS 60600.

**LIS 60616****THE SPECIAL LIBRARY (3)**

The formation of special libraries. Libraries in special subject fields and in organizations: corporations, government agencies, hospitals, etc. Internal organization and administration, collection development and services. Prerequisite: LIS 60600 and 60602.

**LIS 60620****HEALTH INFORMATION RESOURCES (3)**

Cross-listed with HED 64010.

Identifies print and electronic sources of health information with emphasis on electronic sources. Medical patient and consumer health information is presented. This course is designed for the health educator, librarian, nurse or other health care professional.

**LIS 60621****SOCIAL SCIENCES INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES (3)**

Content, bibliographic structure and communication patterns in the social sciences with emphasis on information sources and services in sociology, history, education, political science, anthropology, related disciplines. Prerequisite: LIS 60001 and 60601 (may be taken concurrently).

**LIS 60622****SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES (3)**

Content, bibliographic structure and communication patterns in the sciences with emphasis on pure and applied fields, e.g., mathematics, biology, physics. Prerequisite: LIS 60001.

**LIS 60623*****BUSINESS/FINANCE INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES (3)***

Historical development; applications to current business, labor, governmental, educational and sociological information needs; interpretation to executives and others; printed sources and databases. Prerequisite: LIS 60001.

**LIS 60624*****BASIC CATALOGING FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS (3)***

Organization and administration of print and nonprint materials in small and medium libraries and instructional media centers. Application of appropriate descriptive cataloging rules, subject headings and classification policies.

**LIS 60625*****LIBRARY MATERIALS AND SERVICES FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN (3)***

Selection and utilization of materials in relation to needs, abilities and interests of the very young child.

**LIS 60626*****LIBRARY SERVICES TO YOUNG ADULTS (3)***

Selection and utilization of books and materials in relation to needs, abilities and interests of young adults.

**LIS 60628*****HUMANITIES INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES (3)***

Philosophy, literature, fine and performing arts. Prerequisite: LIS 60001 and 60601 (may be taken concurrently).

**LIS 60629*****LIBRARY MATERIALS AND SERVICES FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN (3)***

Selection and utilization of materials in relation to needs, abilities and interests of school-age children.

**LIS 60630*****REFERENCE SOURCES AND SERVICES FOR YOUTH (3)***

Organization and administration of information sources and information services for children and young adults (K-12). Evaluation, selection and utilization of print and electronic sources. Prerequisite: LIS 60001 (required for LIS majors only).

**LIS 60634*****ETHNIC LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES AND COLLECTIONS (3)***

Library services to ethnic communities. Types of ethnic materials. Selection and evaluation of ethnic publications. The role of ethnic libraries and archives in preservation of ethnic cultural heritage.

**LIS 60640*****LIBRARY AUTOMATION (3)***

Analysis, design and selection of automated library systems. Considers system analysis and requirements, networking technologies, database management systems, multimedia and hypermedia, and client-serving computing. Also, proposals to vendors, contract negotiation, implementation, staffing, training, system maintenance and evaluation. Prerequisite: LIS 60002 or permission. Special fee: \$20.

**LIS 60641*****INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS (3)***

Fundamentals of information storage and retrieval systems: components, models, file structure, information representation, human-computer interaction, standards, protocols and evaluation of system performance. Design and evaluation of information storage and retrieval including contributions from artificial intelligence and cognitive research. Prerequisite: LIS 60002 or permission. Special fee: \$20.

**LIS 60642*****IMPLEMENTATION OF INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS (3)***

Course has dual tracks: conceptual frameworks and basic technical skills. Covers all major aspects and latest advancements of an information retrieval system and their applications. Technical skills include Unix/Linux, PERL and CGI programming. Prerequisite: LIS 60002 and familiarity with telnet, FTP, HTML and Web browsers. Some computer programming experience helpful.

**LIS 60643*****ONLINE INFORMATION SYSTEMS (3)***

Use of information technologies to search for and retrieve electronic information, primarily through the Internet. Analysis of database structures and electronic records; search principles and heuristics; database system producers; system interfaces; and evaluation of results. Prerequisite: LIS 60001 or permission. Special fee: \$30.

**LIS 60644*****INFORMATION SCIENCE (3)***

Focal areas of information science: information retrieval systems, bibliometrics, citation analysis, systems analysis and evaluation, information technologies, information theory, information architecture, knowledge management and user experience.

**LIS 60645*****DATABASE SYSTEMS (3)***

Characteristics and concepts of database systems; types of database models; conceptual database design and implementation; the relational database model and its application; key issues, principles and techniques; current database technologies. Prerequisite: Familiarity with Windows 95/98/2000, Microsoft Office applications and Web browsers.

**LIS 60646****USER INTERFACES FOR INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS (3)**

Hardware considerations and programming for the implementation of user interfaces of computerized information retrieval systems, primarily for Web interfaces but also for online public access catalogs and other networked, client-server systems. Interface analysis, evaluation and design; project design and implementation. Special fee: \$30.

**LIS 60647****NETWORK AND SOFTWARE RESOURCES FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS (3)**

Study, use and evaluation of current and emerging information technologies; network and software resources for libraries and information centers, including network analysis and management, standards, protocols and client-server technologies; and techniques for accessing and evaluating such technologies and resources. Special fee: \$20.

**LIS 60648****ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING ON THE WEB (3)**

Students gain the knowledge and skills to participate professionally in current electronic publishing activities especially Web publishing, and to contribute to future developments in an innovative, socially responsible way.

**LIS 60649****INDEXING AND ABSTRACTING (3)**

Principles and methods of manual and computerized indexing and abstracting applied to I&A databases, back-of-book indexes, Web site indexes and sitemaps. Techniques of constructing indexing languages using international standards. Theory and practice of index design for specific formats and subjects. Automation and I&A services in networked environments. Prerequisite: LIS 60002. Special fee: \$20.

**LIS 60650****INFORMATION POLICY (3)**

Political, economic, cultural and legal issues regarding the production, distribution and use of information (print, electronic and Web). Policy-making process, standards and protocols, intellectual property, information economy, impact of computers on access and policy, privacy rights, transnational flow of information and the Internet and the World Wide Web. Prerequisite: LIS 60600 or permission.

**LIS 60652****FOUNDATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION OF ARCHIVES (3)**

Theoretical and historical foundations, organizational patterns of archives, form of archival material, and development of the archival profession in the United States. Basic administration in archival repositories and overview of special problems in archives. Includes field trips where practicable. Prerequisite: LIS 60001.

**LIS 60654****PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT (3)**

Types and causes of deterioration of various kinds of materials storage and preventive maintenance, preservation through photographic reproduction and microforms, restoration of rare materials.

**LIS 60661****TECHNICAL SERVICES (3)**

Principles, problems and current issues of acquiring, processing and preserving/conserving materials in libraries and information centers. Prerequisite: LIS 60001 and 60602. Special fee: \$20.

**LIS 60665****RARE BOOK LIBRARIANSHIP (3)**

Study of the theory and practice of rare book librarianship through lectures, readings, discussion and practical exercises.

**LIS 60666****ETHICAL CONCERNS OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS (3)**

Analysis of ethical concerns of information professionals: codes of ethics, intellectual freedom, free access, privacy, confidentiality, computer issues and relations with management, clients and colleagues. Prerequisite: LIS 60600 or permission.

**LIS 60670****CULMINATING EXPERIENCE (3)**

Under advisement of a faculty member, students will complete a project that serves as a culminating experience for the M.L.I.S. degree. The project may be a research paper, individual project or culminating practicum. S/U grading; IP permissible. Prerequisite: LIS 60604 and director's approval.

**LIS 60691****SEMINAR IN LIBRARY SCIENCE (1-3)**

Advanced research by small groups of students who are qualified to examine problems of certain special areas.

**LIS 60692****PRACTICUM — LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTERS (2-3)**

Supervised library or information center work experience of a professional nature of not less than 100 clock hours, directed readings and preparation of paper. May not be repeated. IP permissible. Prerequisite: Appropriate type-of-library or type-of-service course.

**LIS 60693****VARIABLE TITLE WORKSHOP — LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE (1-3)**

Intensive examination of special topics of interest to practicing librarians. May be repeated. Maximum workshop credit accepted for M.L.I.S. degree is 4 semester hours. S/U grading.

**LIS 60694*****COLLEGE TEACHING OF LIBRARY SCIENCE (2-3)***

Staff training and experience in college teaching. Repeat registration permitted up to 10 hours. Maximum of 2 hours applicable toward master's degree requirements (with dean's approval). S/U grading; IP permissible. Prerequisite: Permission.

**LIS 60695*****SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN LIBRARY SCIENCE (1-10)***

Individual research at high levels of specialization. Intended for persons in sixth-year program. Repeat registration permitted. IP permissible. Prerequisite: Master's degree and dean's approval.

**LIS 60792*****INTERNSHIP IN LIBRARY SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT (2-10)***

Supervised library work experience of an advanced professional nature that concentrates on developing skills in supervision and management. Intended for persons in the sixth-year program. IP permissible. Prerequisite: Master's degree, two years of professional experience and dean's approval.

**LIS 61095*****SELECTED TOPICS IN LIBRARY SCIENCE (1-3)***

Offered irregularly as resources and/or opportunities permit. Topics will be announced in the *Schedule of Classes*.

**LIS 61096*****INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION (1-2)***

Research or individual investigation for master's-level graduate students. Maximum credit per registration: 2 hours. Maximum credit toward master's degree: 4 hours. IP permissible. Prerequisite: Permission.