

Required Courses

INFO 203. Online Learning: Tools and Strategies for Success

This course introduces students to a variety of successful strategies in the use of new and emerging technologies found in today's online environment. It covers learning management tools, web conferencing, social software, university resources, and other topics that have been identified as being critical for new students.

Note: Must be completed within first 4 weeks of the semester. If 203 is not completed within the first 4 weeks of the semester a hold will be placed and you will be unable to register for any more classes in the iSchool.

INFO 200. Information Communities

Examines information users and the social, cultural, economic, technological, and political forces that shape their information access and use. The different resources and services that information professionals provide for their user communities will also be addressed as well as ethical/legal professional practice. INFO 200 meets SJSU's graduate writing assessment requirement. All INFO 200 students receive a one-year paid membership in a professional association.

Note: Must be completed with a grade of B or better. If the grade is less than B (B- or lower) after the first attempt you will be placed on administrative probation. You must repeat the class the following semester. If -on the second attempt- you do not pass the class with a grade of B or better (not B- but B) you will be disqualified. (See required grade details.)

INFO 202. Information Retrieval System Design

This course covers the design, querying, and evaluation of information retrieval systems, from web hierarchies to controlled vocabularies.

Note: Must be completed with a grade of B or better. If the grade is less than B (B- or lower) after the first attempt you will be placed on administrative probation. You must repeat the class the following semester. If -on the second attempt- you do not pass the class with a grade of B or better (not B- but B) you will be disqualified. (See required grade details.)

INFO 204. Information Professions

Examines the organizations and environments in which information professionals work. This course explores different specializations and career paths, professional communities, networks and resources, ethical and legal frameworks. This course also introduces management and leadership theories and concepts and applies them to different information environments. A special focus is placed on management responsibilities in order to emphasize the importance of these skills in the professional workplace.

Note: Must be completed with a grade of B or better. If the grade is less than B (B- or lower) after the first attempt you will be placed on administrative probation. You must repeat the class the following semester. If -on the second attempt- you do not pass the class with a grade of B or better (not B- but B) you will be disqualified. (See required grade details.)

INFO 285. Applied Research Methods

Covers fundamental principles, processes, values and roles of research for professional application in information organizations. Students will become critical consumers of research products and learn the basic skills of evaluating, planning, designing, executing, and applying research. In addition to a general research methods class, which examines a variety of research methodologies, the iSchool offers a number of applied or specialized sections of INFO 285 for students to choose from.

Examples of topics include: Historical research; Action Research, Evaluating Programs and Services; Doing Research Online

More Information on INFO 285 Topics

Waiver of INFO 285: See Waiver option for those who completed a graduate-level methods course within the last five years.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

Repeatable with different content up to 6 units.

INFO 289 or INFO 299. Students must complete either an e-Portfolio or a thesis.

INFO 289. Advanced Topics in Library and Information Science

Advanced independent creation of an electronic portfolio demonstrating mastery of all program learning outcomes (core competencies) for the MLIS degree. Must be completed in final or next-to-final semester.

See INFO 289 Handbook for detailed information about this course. INFO 289 is offered in the Fall and Spring semesters only. It is not offered in the Summer.

Credit/No Credit grading

Prerequisites: See information about eligibility in the INFO 289 Handbook "Eligibility" Section.

INFO 299. Thesis

Approved thesis proposal and consent of a faculty advisor required.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204, 285

Credit/No Credit grading

See the INFO 299 page for detailed information about this course.

Repeatable for a maximum of six units of credit.

Elective Courses

MLIS students may choose up to 9 units of their 27 elective units from our iSchool MARA program.

Note that the maximum number of units, combined, that can be transferred into your MLIS degree, (iSchool Open Classes, SJSU World Languages or other institutions such as WISE) is 9 units.

INFO 210. Reference and Information Services

A process-oriented examination of how information professionals answer reference questions. The interpersonal skills required for effective question negotiation and the sources with which questions are answered are stressed.

Prerequisite: INFO 202

Repeatable with different content up to 3 units.

INFO 220. Resources and Information Services in Professions and Disciplines

Examination of the nature of resources for, and services to, professions and disciplines including methods of communication, characteristics of users, and current methods of meeting research needs in libraries and information centers.

Examples of topics studied include: Legal Resources, Business Resources, Maps and Geographic Information Systems, Film and Media Collections, Digital Humanities, GLBT services, Psychology of the Information User, Readers Advisory Genres and Techniques,, Data Services in Libraries. See: current topics. Select class number then topics.

Prerequisites: INFO 210

Repeatable with different content up to 9 units.

INFO 221. Government Information Sources

Government information sources, their bibliographic organization, use in all types of libraries and information centers, issues of access, availability, dissemination, and preservation of federal, state, and local sources; and aspects of depository and non-depository collections.

Prerequisite: INFO 210

INFO 230. Issues in Academic Libraries

Investigation of current issues impacting the functioning of the academic library. Topics covered include issues related to social and political environments, clientele, services, collections, physical settings, financing and staffing, and future trends in the academic library sector.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

INFO 231. Issues in Special Libraries and Information Centers

This course will investigate current issues that impact the functioning of special libraries/information centers. Topics covered will include issues related to social and political environments, clientele, services, collections, physical settings, financing and staffing, and future trends in the special library/information center sector.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

INFO 232. Issues in Public Libraries

Investigation of current issues that impact the functioning of the public library. Topics covered include issues related to social and political environments, clientele, services, collections, physical settings, financing and staffing, and future trends in the public library sector.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

INFO 233. School Library Media Centers

A seminar course designed to explore the role of the school library media teacher and the school library media program in the educational community. Emphasis will be on the creation of effective learning environments, involvement in the curriculum and teaching process, as well as philosophies of service and management.

Prerequisites: INFO 204, INFO 250

INFO 234. Intellectual Freedom Seminar

Focuses on current intellectual freedom issues and the centrality of intellectual freedom to librarianship.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 204

INFO 237. School Library Media Materials

Survey of materials in a variety of formats that meet the needs of K12 students. Materials will be examined that support state and national curriculum standards as well as materials that support independent reading and learning.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 203, 204

INFO 240. Information Technology Tools and Applications

Builds the skills needed to structure, store, process, access, and present information in a Web environment. Will typically cover the design of Web sites and Web coding and scripting languages.

Prerequisite: INFO 202

INFO 241. Automated Library Systems

Planning, implementation, and management of a library automation project. How to evaluate major library automation systems for purchase and negotiate the acquisition process. Survey of current trends, practices, and issues in the field.

Prerequisite: INFO 200, 202, 204

Repeatable with different content for up to 3 units.

INFO 242. Database Management

Design and implementation of relational databases with web access for database-driven Web applications. Learn about database management systems (such as Oracle), database administration, and database querying with SQL.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

Recommended: INFO 240

INFO 244. Online Searching

Techniques and concepts for searching online, including strategies, database content, search options, and understanding the information environment. The course includes extensive hands-on experience with subscription search engines.

Prerequisite: INFO 202

INFO 246. Information Technology Tools and Applications - Advanced

Content changes. Topics typically offered include XML, Web programming languages such as XSLT, JavaScript, PHP, and MYSQL, designing interactive content using Web 2.0 tools, content management

systems (Drupal), Information Architecture, Information Visualization, Big Data Analytics and Management, Web/Text/Data Mining. See current topics. Select class number then topics.

Prerequisite: INFO 202. Other prerequisites may be added depending on content.

Repeatable with different content up to 12 units.

INFO 247. Vocabulary Design

Survey of principles and practices used to index information-bearing objects such as documents or images. Includes term assignment, review of existing vocabularies, thesaurus design, metadata structures, and automatic and natural language processes.

Prerequisite: INFO 202

INFO 248. Beginning Cataloging and Classification

Theory and practice of bibliographic control including the study of representative cataloging using descriptive cataloging standards, machine-based representation using MARC format and other standards, subject analysis and classification using LCSH, Dewey, and LCC, RDA.

Prerequisite: INFO 202

INFO 249. Advanced Cataloging and Organization of Information

Application of cataloging and organization of information principles to multi- and hyper-media resources, complex serial publications, evolving standards for representation of nontraditional networked information, and cataloging policy development. Specific focus of the course may vary each time taught.

Prerequisites: INFO 202, 248

INFO 250. Design and Implementation of Instructional Strategies for Information Professionals

The library as an integral part of teaching, learning, and training in different settings. Emphasis on collaborative design between librarians and teachers/professors that includes planning, teaching, and assessment of learning activities using the library's resources and technology.

Prerequisite: INFO 200

INFO 251. Web Usability

Through examination of theory, methodologies, and real-life cases, INFO 251 offers a framework for developing user-friendly interfaces for use in information systems. Students will learn the principles of user-centric design and style for particular circumstances and populations.

Prerequisite: INFO 202

INFO 254. Information Literacy and Learning

Provides theory and practice for teaching information literacy in an LIS setting. The course emphasizes learning theory as well as the practical aspects of teaching. Students learn methods and tools for teaching in both synchronous and asynchronous settings.

Prerequisite: INFO 200

INFO 256. Archives and Manuscripts

An introduction to the theory and practice of managing archival documents, such as personal papers, institutional records, photographs, electronic records, and other unpublished material. Topics covered include manuscript and records acquisition and appraisal, arrangement and description, conservation and preservation, reference and access.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

INFO 257. Records Management

An introduction to the theories, methodologies, and technologies used in managing institutional information and records. Topics include the history of records management, the records' life cycle, record inventory and analysis, classification and filing, retention scheduling, equipment, and more.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

INFO 259. Preservation Management

Examination of preservation practice, with emphasis on emerging theories, models and technologies.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

INFO 260A. Programming and Services for Children

This course examines the importance of programming for children, including parent education programs, story hours, outreach techniques, services with schools, summer reading programs, and program series such as weekly or monthly programs on manga, knitting, book discussions, or homework help.

Prerequisites: INFO 200

INFO 261A. Programming and Services for Young Adults

Administration and delivery of professional library and information services with multi-cultural young adult populations: features critical youth studies cultural/historical research, resources, policy, threats, tools, methods, service philosophies and management skills necessary for a comprehensive profile of YA library services.

Prerequisites: INFO 200

INFO 263. Materials for Children

Survey of materials in a variety of formats including nonfiction, beginning chapter books, fictional genres, paperback series and electronic resources, and how they can help meet developmental needs. Collection development tools and techniques for this material will also be included.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, and INFO 260A or INFO 261A

INFO 264. Materials for Tweens

Survey of materials in various formats including fiction, nonfiction, movies, CDs, computer games and other materials, and how they can meet the developmental needs of this age group. Collection development tools and techniques for this material will also be included.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, and INFO 260A or INFO 261A

INFO 265. Materials for Young Adults

This course will allow students to take an in depth look at materials in a variety of formats for teens, including fiction, popular nonfiction, graphic novels, movies, computer games, websites, other media, and determine how they can meet developmental needs.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, and INFO 260A or INFO 261A

INFO 266. Collection Management

Study of collection management in all types of libraries and information centers. Includes analysis of information needs, criteria for selection, collection use evaluation, and resources for collection development.

Prerequisites: INFO 202, 204

INFO 267. Seminar in Services to Children and Young Adults

Seminar in planning, developing, and evaluating youth services. Special needs of children and youth such as controversial literature, intellectual freedom issues for youth will be featured. See current topics
Select class number then topics

Prerequisites: INFO 200, and INFO 260A or INFO 261A

Repeatable with different content up to 9 units.

INFO 268. History of Youth Literature

The history of literature for children and teens from its earliest examples to today's current trends, including how childhood has changed over the years, the influence of culture on those changes, and on the materials created for children and teens.

Prerequisites: INFO 200

INFO 269. Early Childhood Literacy

Covers a wide variety of topics important for an understanding of early childhood multi-literacies in library and non-library environments, including current research, best practices and practical examples that can be implemented in various work environments with children.

Prerequisites: INFO 200

INFO 271A. Genres and Topics in Youth Literature

Various topics and genres in literature for children or teens will be examined in depth. See current topics. Select class number then topics.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, and INFO 260A or INFO 261A

Repeatable with different content up to 9 units.

INFO 275. Library Services for Racially and Ethnically Diverse Communities

Focuses on developing skills for planning, implementing and evaluating programs for addressing the information needs of racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse communities. Reviews the major national, state and local studies.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 204

INFO 280. History of Books and Libraries

This class examines the role of the book and the library in expressing and fostering culture throughout history. It traces the development of the book through its many stages--cuneiform fragments, illuminated manuscripts, printed books, and electronic journals--and explores how the creation, use, and storage of information are affected by social and technological change. The development of libraries and librarianship and how they have accommodated themselves to the changing form of the book will also be considered.

Prerequisite: INFO 200

INFO 281. Seminar in Contemporary Issues

Investigation of major contemporary issues within the information profession; topics range from censorship to the need for a national information policy and changes each time the course is offered. Examples of topics studied include: Digital Copyright; Information Ethics; Information Secrecy; International and Comparative Librarianship; Intercultural Communication; Metadata, The Emerging Future, Examination of global library issues using project based learning , Storytelling. See current topics. Select class number then topics.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204

Other prerequisites may be added depending on content.

Repeatable with different content to a maximum of 9 units.

INFO 282. Seminar in Library Management

Application of management theory to specific problems. Readings and discussions of the development of effective strategies for planning and implementing organizational change. Specific content of the course changes each time it is offered. Examples of topics studied include: Advocacy, Change Management, Digital Assets Management, Financial Management, Human Resources Management, Leadership, Information Systems Management, Grant Writing, Using Social Media for Competitive and Company Research, Project Management. See current topics. Select class number then topics. View a Student Showcase of projects created in the Emerging Future: Technology Issues and Trends seminar course.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 204

Repeatable with different content up to 9 units.

INFO 283. Marketing of Information Products and Services

Applications of marketing concepts to library and information services. Market analysis, use surveys, market targeting and introduction of services will be featured.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 204

Repeatable with different content up to 3 units.

INFO 284. Seminar in Archives and Records Management

In-depth study of current issues and practices in archives and records management. The course addresses new areas of research and application such as oral history, managing photographic collections,

digitization and digital preservation, digital curation. tools, services, and methodologies for digital curation, medieval manuscripts: codicology and paleography, incunabula, interpretive exhibits and programming in non-traditional spaces — INFO 284 and more. See current topics. Select class number then topics.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204; Other prerequisites may be added depending on content.

Repeatable with different content up to 12 units.

INFO 286. Interpersonal Communication Skills for Librarians

Surveys the principles and practice of interpersonal communication; small group and peer relationships.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 204

Repeatable with different content up to 3 units.

INFO 287. Seminar in Information Science

Current issues and problems in information science. Specific content of the seminar changes each time it is offered. Examples of topics include: digital libraries,, user experience, open source, hyperlinked library, gamifying information, Scratch, STEM in libraries, Innovation and Participatory Practice in Libraries (to include Maker Spaces) , institutional repositories and services, library services and tools for the digital age. Student Learning outcomes and competencies will vary according to content. See current topics. Select class number then topics.,

Prerequisites: INFO 200. Other prerequisites may be added depending on content.

Repeatable with different content to a maximum of 9 units.

INFO 293. Introduction to Data Networking

Information and communication technologies are a strategic necessity for organizations worldwide. This course provides students with the foundational understanding of the design, development and implementation of information and communication technologies in organizations. Topics will include networking standards and the OSI Model, transmission basics and network media, TCP/IP protocols, WANS and remote connectivity, wireless networking, voice and video over IP, virtual networks and remote access, and network security and troubleshooting.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204.

INFO 294. Professional Experience: Internships

Experience in a selected public, academic, special library or other information-based organization. See more information. Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 203 204, and 9 units of electives.. Students must be in good academic standing [3.0 CUM GPA or above and no outstanding incompletes]. Credit/No Credit grading. 2 to 4 units: Each unit is equivalent to a minimum of 45 hours of work.

Repeatable for a maximum of eight units of credit.

INFO 295. School Library Field Work

A supervised professional experience of school librarianship at the levels of both elementary and secondary (middle or high) schools. Emphasis is on observation and guided practice with a credentialed school librarian (library media teacher).

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 203, 204, 233, 237, 248, 250, 266, 285. Students must be in good academic standing [3.0 CUM GPA or above and no outstanding incompletes].

Credit/No Credit grading.

3 units

INFO 298. Special Studies

Independent research and projects for advanced students. Consent of a faculty advisor required. See more information.

Prerequisites: INFO 200, 202, 204. Other courses depending on research or project topic and goals. MARA students contact Dr. Pat Franks.

Credit/No Credit grading

1 to 3 units: Each unit is equivalent to 45 hours of work.

Repeatable for a maximum of six units of credit.