

Completed

2 GOALS 5 OUTCOMES 10 MEASURES 10 TARGETS 10 FINDINGS 16 ATTACHMENTS

## Program Description/Summary

The MLIS program is the only program in the state that is accredited by the American Library Association. The MLIS degree requires 40 credit hours, 25 hours of required courses and 15 hours of electives. In addition to basic courses in reference, cataloging, and collection development, graduate students take courses in library management and in research. Our MLIS graduates work in a wide variety of settings, including schools, colleges, universities, public libraries, government libraries, corporate libraries, hospitals, military, museums, archives and other information-related environments. Many graduates of the MLIS program are directors or managers of library systems or programs. (updated May 2023)

## Mission

The mission of the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) is to prepare qualified individuals for professional roles in libraries, archives, and other information environments with appropriate knowledge, applied scholarship, and skills to serve the information needs of their communities.

## Vision

The School of Library and Information Science aspires to promote student success, improve information literacy, and serve diverse populations through excellence in teaching, research, service, and the use of emergent technologies.

## Values

The School of Library and Information Science is committed to:

**Student-centered learning:** We are committed to cultivating an active, student-centered learning community.

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** We recognize and value the diversity of modern society and support an inclusive learning environment. We ensure principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion are cultivated to create advocacy for marginalized groups in the pursuit of social justice.

**Intellectual freedom:** We embrace the ideals of intellectual and academic freedom and strive to nurture an open, respectful learning environment for the free exchange of ideas.

Service: Because we believe it is a core of the profession, we support service at all levels and encourage ongoing professional development as a means of enhancing skills and knowledge.

Community: We believe in creating, fostering, and participating in learning and research communities that span borders on state, national, and international levels.

Research: We believe research is an essential part of scholarship, not just for creation of new knowledge but for support of teaching and learning and sharing of new knowledge with multiple communities of interest.

Mode-of-delivery: Online

Location: Online

## 1 Outcome Type Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

1.1 **Outcome**  
SLO 1: Knowledge of and Commitment to Ethical Practices of Library and Information Professionals  
MLIS students will interpret intellectual freedom related to censorship and D.E.I. and will develop collection policies for providing libraries and information centers with a variety of viewpoints through a balanced and inclusive selection of materials and services. [Updated for AY 22-23]

1.1.1 **Measures**  
Interpret Intellectual Freedom Related to Censorship and D.E.I. (Direct Measure)  
[Updated for AY 22-23]  
Students will illustrate their understanding of intellectual freedom related to censorship and D.E.I. through graded discussion board postings [LIS 500: Library and Information Science Orientation] and apply that understanding by developing balanced collection development policies for libraries and information centers [LIS 511: Collection Development and Management].

1.1.1.1 **Targets**  
The written assignment is evaluated using the discussion board posting evaluation rubric [LIS 500: Library and Information Science Orientation] and the collection development policy assignment rubric. [LIS 511: Collection Development and Management]. **Met**

TARGET	90% of students will achieve a satisfactory or excellent ranking on the evaluation rubrics for interpreting intellectual freedom related to censorship and D.E.I.
FINDINGS	[LIS 500] Sum22: 23/24; Fall 22: 46/48 and 41/48; Spr 23: 32/33 and 30/33 met or exceeded the requirement. [LIS 511] Sum 22: 23/23; Fall 22: 36/36; Spr 23: 26/28 met or exceeded the requirement.
ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS	[LIS 500]: 172/186 or 92.5% met or exceeded the requirement. Fourteen students did not meet the requirements. These students failed to submit despite prompts and reminders. [LIS 511]: 85/87 or 97.7% met or exceeded the requirement. Two students did not meet the requirements.

## 1.1.2

### Measures

#### Group Project - Collection Development Policy (Direct Measure)

Students develop collection policies for providing libraries and information centers with a variety of viewpoints through a balanced and inclusive selection of materials and services and fostering the patron's right to read.

## 1.1.2.1

### Targets

The written assignment is evaluated using the Collection Policy evaluation rubric. [LIS 511: Collection Development and Management]. Met

TARGET	90% of students will achieve a satisfactory or excellent ranking on the collection development policy rubric.
FINDINGS	Using the assignment guide and rubric: Sum 22: 23/23 met or exceeded the requirement. Fall 22: 36/36 met or exceeded the requirement. Spr 23: 26/28 met or exceeded the requirement.
ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS	85/87 or 97.7% met or exceeded the requirement. Two students fell below the requirements.

## 1.2

### Outcome

#### SLO 2: Professional Practice and Training Experiences

MLIS students will locate and evaluate appropriate reference sources to meet the informational needs of their patrons and they will demonstrate the basic tenets of cataloging

through cataloging and classification exercises.

### 1.2.1 Measures

#### Locate and Evaluate Appropriate Reference Sources (Direct Measure)

Students demonstrate the role of the library and of the librarian in the information-seeking process by locating and evaluating reference sources for 1) bibliographies, 2) encyclopedias or biographical sources, 3) health, law, or business, and 4) government or statistical sources. [LIS 501: Reference and Information Sources].

### 1.2.1.1 Targets

The written assignment is evaluated using the Reference Sources evaluation rubric. [LIS 501] **Met**

TARGET 90% of students will achieve satisfactory or excellent ranking using the reference source evaluation guide and rubric.

FINDINGS Using the assignment guide and rubric: Fall 22: 113/117 met or exceeded the requirement. Spr 23: 110/111 meet or exceeded the requirement.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS 223/228 or 97.8% met or exceeded the requirement. 5 students fell below the expectations.

### 1.2.2 Measures

#### Catalog a Variety of Materials (Direct Measure)

Students catalog and classify a variety of materials so that they are readily accessible to patrons served by a library or information center. [LIS 505: Cataloging and Classification].

### 1.2.2.1 Targets

The written assignment is evaluated using the assignment guide and evaluation rubric. [LIS 505] **Met**

TARGET 90% of students will achieve excellent or satisfactory ratings on cataloging exercises using the writing rubric.

FINDINGS Using the assignment guide and rubric: Sum 22: 38/38 met or exceeded the requirements. Fall 22: 35/35 met or exceeded the requirements. Spr 23: 33/33 met or exceeded the requirements.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS 106/106 or 100% met or exceeded the requirements.

1.3

**Outcome**

SLO 3: Knowledge of the LIS Literature and Competencies [Updated for AY 22-23]  
MLIS students will be able to locate and evaluate library management articles and they will create an annotated bibliography of LIS articles on an approved topic.

1.3.1

**Measures**

Locate and Evaluate Library Management Articles (Direct Measure)

Students locate and evaluate at least two articles on a library management issue such as managing change, managing people, managing technology, HR issues, getting and managing grants. [LIS 605: Library Management].

1.3.1.1

**Targets**

The written discussion board assignments are evaluated using the article evaluation rubric. [LIS 605] Met

TARGET

90% of students will achieve satisfactory or excellent ratings using the discussion board article evaluation rubric.

FINDINGS

Using the assignment guide and rubric: Sum 22: 24/25 met or exceeded the requirements. Fall 22: 30/32 met or exceeded the requirements. Spr 23: 30/30 met or exceeded the requirements.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

84/87 or 96.5% met or exceeded the requirements. One student fell below the expectations and two students were given incompletes.

1.3.2

**Measures**

Create an Annotated Bibliography of IS Research Articles (Direct Measure)

Students create an annotated bibliography of twenty resources related to an information science topic. Annotations should be an objective critical analysis of the resources and should consider authority, bias, content, and currency of the source. [LIS 651: Fundamentals of Information Science].

1.3.2.1

**Targets**

The written assignment is evaluated using the annotated bibliography rubric. [LIS 651] Met

TARGET

90% of students will achieve satisfactory or excellent ratings using the annotated

bibliography evaluation rubric.

FINDINGS

Using the assignment guide and rubric: Sum 22: 44/48 met or exceeded the requirements. Fall 22: 21/25 met or exceeded the requirements. Spr 23: 34/37 met or exceeded the requirements.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

103/110 or 93.6% met or exceeded the requirements. Two students fell below the expectations and five students failed to meet the requirements.

1.4 **Outcome**

SLO 4: Engagement in Research

MLIS students will engage in research and apply appropriate research methodology to specific problems in library and information science.

**Action Plan**

For 1.4.1.1, LIS 651 will be moved to an elective recommended for students on the academic library track. The bibliometric paper measure will be updated for AY 23-24. For 1.4.2.1, the overall target percentage will be lowered to 90% moving forward as this will align with the other targets and because the rigor has been increased for the paper.

Budget Source	Amount	Due	Status
	\$0.00	5/31/2024	In Progress

1.4.1 **Measures**

Research and Write a Bibliometric Study (Direct Measure)

Students complete a bibliometric study based on the characteristics of a specific set of scholarly, peer-reviewed articles. The study should include 1) introduction section, which includes background information purpose of the study, problem statement, research questions, definitions, limitations, and assumptions; 2) review of relevant literature; 3) methodology, which includes a description of data sources, data collection, how data will be compiled and analyzed; 4) results or findings of the research; 5) discussion of implications of the research results and conclusion with recommendations for further research. [LIS 651: Fundamentals of Information Science].

1.4.1.1 **Targets**

The written assignment is evaluated using the bibliometric research paper rubric. [LIS 651] [Being replaced with LIS 668 draft in AY 23-24] **Not Met**

TARGET	90% of students' bibliometric research papers will be rated satisfactory or excellent using the bibliometric research paper rubric.
FINDINGS	Using the assignment guide and rubric: Sum 22: 44/48 met or exceeded the requirements. Fall 22: 22/25 met or exceeded the requirements. Spr 23: 30/37 met or exceeded the requirements.
ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS	96/110 or 87.2% met or exceeded the requirements. Six students fell below the expectations and eight students failed to meet the requirements.

### 1.4.2 Measures

#### Conduct Research and Write a Master's Research Project (Direct Measure)

Students demonstrate an understanding of the process and role of research in library and information science through the completion of an original research project and report. The process includes submission of a research proposal in LIS 668, a LIS research methods course, then completion of the research project and report in LIS 695 capstone course. Evaluation of the capstone research project is by at least two faculty who review and give feedback to the students at the proposal and draft stages of the project. The research project is evaluated on content and format using a master's research project rubric. [LIS 668: Research Methods in LIS; LIS 695: Master's Project].

### 1.4.2.1 Targets

The written assignment is evaluated using the masters research project rubric. [LIS695] Not Met

TARGET	95% of students' research projects will be rated satisfactory or excellent using the rubric for the master's research project. [Will be updated to 90% in AY 23-24]
FINDINGS	Using the assignment guide and rubric: Sum 22: 22/22 met or exceeded the requirements. Fall 22: 36/45 met or exceeded the requirements. Spr 23: 66/69 met or exceeded the requirements.
ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS	124/136 or 91.1% met or exceeded the requirements. Eleven students fell below the expectations and one student was given an incomplete.

2

**Outcome Type**

Program Objectives (POs)

2.1

**Outcome**

Retention Rate and Graduation Rate

Retention Rate from Fall 2021 to Fall 2022, Graduation rate from 2017 to 2022

2.1.1

**Measures**

MLIS Program Retention Rate (Direct Measure)

Retention Rate from Fall 2021 to Fall 2022

2.1.1.1

**Targets**

Retention Rate data in HelioCampus (USM Institutional Research, 2022)

Met

TARGET

80% of students in the library and information science master’s program in fall will return in fall the following year as determined by data from Institutional Research.

FINDINGS

94.2% Retention from Fall 2022.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS

2.1.2

**Measures**

MLIS Graduation Rate (Direct Measure)

Graduation Rate from spring 2016 to spring 2021

2.1.2.1

**Targets**

Graduation Rate data in HelioCampus (USM Institutional Research, 2021)

Met

TARGET

80% of the students admitted to the library and information science master’s program will graduate within five years as determined by data from Institutional Research in HelioCampus.








FINDINGS

88.2 % six-year Spring 2017-2023 Graduation Rate.

ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS



## Project Attachments (16)

Attachments	File Size
 1.1.1 500 Topic_ Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (ALA and SACS Accreditation Assessments).pdf	65KB
 1.1.1 Collection Development Policy-511.pdf	54KB
 1.1.1. 500 Topic_ Censorship and Intellectual Freedom (ALA and SACS Accreditation Assessments).pdf	50KB
 1.1.2 Collection Development Policy-511.pdf	54KB
 1.2.1 Topic_ Encyclopedia or Biographical Resource Evaluation 501.pdf	56KB
 1.2.2 Descriptive cataloging exercises Part I --505.pdf	70KB
 1.3.1 Leadership and Management Competencies - 605.pdf	72KB
 1.3.2 Annotated Bibliography 651.pdf	74KB
 1.4.1 Bibliometric Research Paper_651.pdf	48KB
 1.4.2 695_paper_checklist Final Assessment 2022.pdf	104KB
 1.4.2 695_Research_Project_grading_rubric.pdf	118KB
 1.4.2 Final Research Project_LIS 695.pdf	67KB
 6YrGradMLIS.pdf	127KB
 Annual Program and Action Plan Analysis 2022-2023.docx	30KB
 Fall_Fall_Retention.pdf	125KB
 MLIS_Action Plans 2022.pdf	590KB