

The University of Missouri-Columbia's Master's of Arts in Information Science & Learning Technologies (Library Science) at Missouri State University in Springfield

The Missouri State University Department of Library Science (LIS) has a cooperative arrangement with the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies (SISLT) at the University of Missouri-Columbia (MU) offering MU students in southwest Missouri the opportunity of obtaining an American Library Association accredited Master of Arts in Information Science & Learning Technologies (Library Science) without traveling to Columbia. In the agreement, nine Missouri State LIS courses are approved as equivalents of MU core courses. This means that MU students register for these courses through MU, yet take them face-to-face at Missouri State. Through combining the core courses offered at Missouri State's Meyer Library with online and hybrid courses directly from MU, students may earn the master's degree.

MU SISLT Program Requirements

For the degree, students must complete 42 credit hours, including these required courses:

- 7301 Introduction to Information Technology (3 credits)
- 7302 Organization of Information
- 7305 Foundations of Library and Information Science (1 credit)
- 7313 Managing Collections and Access (3 credits)
- 7314 Reference Sources and Services (3 credits)
- 7315 Management of Information Agencies (3 credits)
- 7380 Practicum in School Libraries (2-3 credits) **or**
- 7381 Practicum in Information Agencies (2-3 credits)

Of the remaining 24 elective hours, 12 must be from the 9000-level. See the SISLT home page <http://education.missouri.edu/SISLT/index.php> for complete information on program requirements.

MU students can take four of the required courses face-to-face at Missouri State; these courses must always be registered through MU. The remainder of the courses may be selected from MU online courses and hybrid courses, called Starburst courses. The Starburst courses are taught online by an MU SISLT faculty member, but students also meet with a Missouri State instructor for two Saturday class sessions on campus at Missouri State. Students may also transfer up to six hours of approved electives from Missouri State into their MU program.

To complete the program, students must take a written comprehensive exam. No thesis is required.

How to Apply

Submit ALL application materials to the University of Missouri-Columbia. DO NOT send any materials to Missouri State University.

The following materials must be sent to the Graduate School at MU:

- Application to the Graduate School, available on MU's Web site (<http://www.missouri.edu>). The application must be sent with the application fee. See the application for the current fee requirement.
- Up-to-date official transcripts from all institutions where you have earned credits.
- General Record Examination (GRE) scores
- If your native language is other than English, your Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores.

The following supplemental materials must be sent either via [Apply Yourself](#) on the MU Web site or directly to the SISLT Student Coordinator's Office, 303 Townsend Hall, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO 65211, or FAX 573-884-0122:

- Statement of purpose, answering the following questions: What, in your opinion, will be the role of information agencies such as libraries in the next 10 years? What do you see as your contribution to the future development of information agencies such as libraries?
- Résumé
- Two letters of professional recommendation

Your application materials may be sent in one piece at a time. After you send in your initial MU graduate school application, application fee and transcripts, you may begin to take courses. You can complete up to nine hours toward the degree before you are accepted into the program.

Deadlines for application:

Winter Semester Admission—Materials must all be received by October 1.

Fall Semester Admission—Materials must all be received by May 1.

For Additional Information:

For more detailed information, go to the Web site for the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies, <http://education.missouri.edu/SISLT/>. Here, you'll find plenty of information concerning the program, how to apply and enroll, answers to frequently asked questions, and contact information. You can also contact staff at the Student Coordinator's Office:

SISLT Student Coordinator's Office
303 Townsend Hall
University of Missouri-Columbia
Columbia, MO 65211
E-mail: sislt@missouri.edu

Office phone: (573) 884-2670
Fax: (573) 884-0122
SISLT main office number: (573) 882-4546
Toll-free number: (877) 747-5868