



School Library Media Program



**SCHOOL OF
INFORMATION STUDIES**
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Make a difference in the lives of students and the entire learning community by fostering literacy and a lifelong love of learning.

The School of Information Studies (SOIS) School Library Media Program is one of our most popular career pathways. Graduates become educational leaders in their schools, districts, states and beyond. One of the great advantages of our program is the access you will gain to a vast network of Dominican alumnae/i throughout the profession. After all, we have been educating professional school librarians since 1930.

The Dominican Difference

- Dominican is strong in children's literature and services to children and young adults (#12 nationally; *U.S. News and World Report*). The Butler Children's Literature Center, a collaborative partnership with SOIS, the School of Education and the Rebecca Crown Library offers opportunities to learn firsthand about literature for children and young adults.
- The Dominican University network at the local, regional, state and national levels enables an extensive base of knowledge and expertise for our students' benefit. The program is designed, managed and taught by nationally recognized leaders in the field. Adjunct faculty come to us from school districts that support state-of-the-art instructional technology; these districts also offer high-quality, beneficial clinical practice placements.
- We strive to create a teaching and learning environment that embraces the university motto of *Caritas et Veritas*, compassionate service and the pursuit of truth, in the hope that our graduates will spread that spirit in the institutions where they work.

Library Information Specialist Licensure and/or Endorsement

Students in the School Library Media Program complement their coursework with clinical practice in school settings. Those with an existing Professional Educator License (PEL) complete an internship; those seeking an initial PEL do student teaching. In both cases, you'll have a chance to put what you're learning in class into practice immediately in one of the schools in our vast network of clinical practice settings.

Based on Empowering Learners—the national guidelines of the American Association of School Librarians—our program develops highly qualified school librarians who play powerful roles in their school and communities. Areas covered include:

- General principles of librarianship with particular focus on service to children and youth
- Information literacy and instructional technology
- Integration of the library media program into the school curriculum
- Program administration, assessment, and advocacy
- Leadership and strategic communication

Career Options

This approved entitlement program prepares you for service at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Completion qualifies you for an Illinois Professional Educator License with Library Information Specialist Endorsement K–12. Our graduates find work in varied roles and educational settings across the state of Illinois, such as:

- Library Media Specialist, Greenwood Elementary School, Woodstock
- Teacher Librarian, Brook Forest Elementary School, Oak Brook
- Library Director, Glen Crest Middle School, Glen Ellyn
- Information Literacy Specialist, Park View School, Morton Grove
- Librarian, Neuqua Valley High School, Elgin



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THE CURRICULUM

The following nine courses cover the competencies required in the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards for the Library Information Specialist. The core concepts of information access and delivery, teaching and learning, communication and program administration are addressed within the context of the required courses. Special focus is placed on the philosophies of elementary, middle and secondary schools, along with the developmental psychology of K-12 students.

Required Courses (27 semester hours)

Introduction to Library and Information Science
Organization of Knowledge
Reference and Online Services
School Libraries (visitation hours required)
Leadership and Strategic Communication
Library Materials for Children
Library Materials for Young Adults
Integrating Technology into Programming, Services and Instruction
Curriculum and School Libraries (visitation hours required)

Electives (9 semester hours)

Electives may be chosen from among more than 80 options. Students interested in only adding the endorsement to an existing Professional Educator License do not take electives.

Clinical Experience in School Libraries

In addition to the 36 semester-hour course requirements, one of the following experiences is required to complete the clinical practice component of the program:

- Clinical Experience I Student Teaching OR
- Clinical Experience II Internship

Clinical experience enables school library media program students to apply the knowledge gained from coursework in a variety of school library settings.

Degree Requirements

To fulfill the requirements for the MLIS degree plus the Illinois Professional Educator License with a Special (K-12) Endorsement in the concentration area of Library Information Specialist students must:

- Fulfill all the requirements for the MLIS degree.
- Apply for admittance to the School Library Media Program (including successful completion of

the Illinois Test of Academic Proficiency or its equivalent). Students educated outside of the United States need to have official credential evaluations completed by an approved agency at their own expense.

- Complete the nine required courses plus nine elective semester hours.
- Successfully complete the required Illinois licensure tests.
- Develop a program portfolio.
- Complete the clinical practice component of the program.
- Meet the professional education requirements of the State of Illinois.
- Attend scheduled information sessions and participate in an exit interview with the program director.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact our graduate recruiting coordinator, Catherine Galarza-Espino at (708) 524-6983 or cgalarza@dom.edu.

Visit us at sois.dom.edu/academics/slmp.

