

# Digital Librarianship in LIS Education

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Talk outline

- I. Scope of digital librarianship
- II. Core competencies
- III. Curriculum development
- IV. Other digital library education programs
- V. Resources for current awareness
- VI. Examples from UIUC

# I. Scope of Digital Librarianship

Definition:

Digital libraries are organizations that provide the resources, including *the specialized staff*, to select, structure, offer intellectual access to, interpret, distribute, preserve the integrity of, and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities.

[Digital Library Federation

<http://www.diglib.org/about/dldefinition.htm>]

## II. Core Competencies

- As part of our digital library education grant project, we conducted a survey of 128 practitioners involved in digital library work to determine knowledge and skills judged to be very important in a curriculum preparing students to work with digital collections.
- Survey results divided the knowledge and skills into three areas: technical, digital content management, and organization/management.

## II. Core Competencies (cont.)

- Technical skills

Information architecture and design

User interface design

Digital imaging

Markup languages

Database design and implementation

Content management systems

## II. Core Competencies (cont.)

- Digital content management skills
  - Principles of cataloging and metadata
  - Digital preservation
  - Storage for effective/efficient retrieval
  - Authentication of information
  - User's search strategies for obtaining digital information
  - Standards for information organization

## II. Core Competencies (cont.)

- Organization/management skills
  - Project management
  - Change management
  - Managing and communicating with technical staff
  - Collaborating with others face-to-face
  - Collaborating with others virtually
  - Understanding organizations in which digital content resides
  - Understanding the information lifecycle of digital objects
  - Methods of evaluation and assessment
  - Legal issues in digital collection management

# III. Curriculum Development

Certificate of Advanced Study in Digital Libraries

(<http://www.lis.illinois.edu/academics/programs/cas-dl>)

Students will gain advanced-level knowledge of digital asset management; information and collection modeling; design of human-centered, digitally mediated information services; and information policy. The program assumes existing MS-level knowledge of Library and Information Science, including basic information organization; indexing and cataloging; information needs and uses; reference and user services; and libraries-in-society.

### III. Curriculum Development (cont.)

Course requirements include:

- 1) four (4) required CAS-DL core courses
- 2) four (4) elective courses
- 3) LIS593 "C.A.S. Project." The project must entail a Digital Libraries-related project defined and monitored in consultation with the student's CAS advisor.

# III. Curriculum Development (cont.)

## Core courses:

- LIS453 "Systems Analysis and Management" Covers how to evaluate, select and manage the information systems that will be used in the daily operation of libraries and information centers. Includes the systems used by technical staff and the information consumers.
- LIS590DI "Introduction to Digital Libraries" Covers principles and comparative case studies of Digital Libraries and content management systems, including creation, organization, ongoing management, archiving, and preservation of digital assets.
- LIS590IM "Information Modeling" Covers issues of Document Modeling and Collection Modeling in an integrated way.
- LIS590MD "Metadata in Theory & Practice" Covers the design and application of metadata schema in a variety of settings, as well as examining issues of interoperability and the social and political factors influencing the development and implementation of metadata schema.

### III. Curriculum Development (cont.)

Examples of elective courses:

- Electronic Publishing
- Implementation of Information Storage and Retrieval Systems
- Interfaces to Information Systems
- Information Policy
- Foundations of Data Curation
- Understanding Multimedia Information

## IV. Other Digital Library Education Programs

- University of Arizona

Graduate Certificate Program in Digital Information Management

<http://digin.arizona.edu/>

6 courses, offered online

- Syracuse University

Certificate of Advanced Study in Digital Libraries

<http://ischool.syr.edu/academics/graduate/mls/digitallibraries/index.aspx>

## IV. Other Digital Library Education Programs (cont.)

- Drexel University

Post-Master's Digital Libraries Specialist Program

<http://www.drexel.com/online-degrees/information-sciences-degrees/spec-dl/index.aspx>

- International Master in Digital Library Learning

<http://dill.hio.no>

DILL is a two-year Master Programme for information professionals who intend to work in the complex world of digital libraries.

DILL is offered in cooperation between Oslo University College (Norway), Tallinn University (Estonia), and Parma University (Italy). Students will spend at least one semester at each institution

## IV. Other Digital Library Education Programs (cont.)

- Digital Libraries Curriculum Development

<http://curric.dlib.vt.edu/>

This project was funded by the National Science Foundation and builds upon a collaboration between Virginia Tech and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Developed modules that can be used to develop lessons on key digital library topics, such as digitization, metadata, and image retrieval.

<http://curric.dlib.vt.edu/modDev/modDev.html>

# V. Resources for Current Awareness

- Journal

D-Lib Magazine <http://www.dlib.org>

- Conferences and Workshops

Listings: <http://www.dlib.org/groups.html>

- Associations and Organizations

Digital Library Federation <http://www.diglib.org>

American Society for Information Science & Technology

Special Interest Group on Digital Libraries

<http://www.asis.org/SIG/sigdl/>

## VI. Examples from UIUC

Digital Content Creation

<http://www.library.illinois.edu/dcc/index.html>

Best Practices for Creating Digital Collections

<http://www.library.illinois.edu/dcc/bestpractices/contents.html>

IDEALS: Illinois Digital Environment for Access to Learning and Scholarship

<http://www.ideals.illinois.edu/>

IDEALS collects, disseminates, and provides persistent and reliable access to the research and scholarship of faculty, staff, and students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Faculty, staff, and graduate students can deposit their research and scholarship.