

Library Science

Pre-Professional Advising
(907) 474-6396

A graduate degree in library and information science prepares students for professional positions in the management of information in libraries and other environments. According to one graduate program description, the “contemporary librarian has become an essential part of the complex communication/information network that now encircles the globe. Today’s information professional must understand how information is created and disseminated in society; must be familiar with print, non-print, and electronic media; and must be adept in the use of computers, automated techniques, and information networks.”

One to two years of graduate course work in a broad spectrum of areas is generally required for a professional career in library science. The program covers planning and evaluation related to acquiring, organizing and accessing information in library settings. Students also learn to manage, design and deliver information services. Some programs may offer special emphasis on topics such as law or medicine.

Library schools prepare professionals from a variety of academic backgrounds. The caliber of the applicant’s undergraduate work and results of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) are important considerations for acceptance to a professional library studies program.

At UAF, pre-library science students pursue an extensive general undergraduate education. Courses in computer applications and programming, statistics, and foreign languages help to satisfy the demands and admission requirements of graduate programs in library science. A background in the social and physical sciences is equally important as the number of special libraries increases. Advisement for students interested in library science is available through the Academic Advising Center.

General University Requirements

All degrees (e.g. B.A., B.S., etc.) require additional courses. Refer to specific degree and program requirements.

COMMUNICATIONS (9)

Complete the following:

ENGL 111X (3) _____
 ENGL 211X OR 213X (3) _____
 COMM 131X OR 141X (3) _____

LIBRARY & INFORMATION SKILLS (0-1)

Complete the following:

LS 100X OR 101X (0-1) _____
 OR Successful completion of library skills competency test.

PERSPECTIVES ON THE HUMAN CONDITION (18)

Complete either the following six courses:

ANTH 100X OR SOC 100X (3) _____
 ECON/PS 100X (3) _____
 HIST 100X (3) _____
 ART/MUS/THR 200X, HUM 201X OR ANS 202X (3) _____
 ENGL/FL 200X (3) _____
 PHIL 322X, NRM 303X, COMM 300X,
 PS 300X OR JUST 300X (3) _____

OR Complete 12 cr from the above list **PLUS** two semester-length courses in a single non-English or Alaska Native language at the university level **OR** three semester-length courses (9 cr) in American Sign Language.

MATHEMATICS (3-4)

Complete 3-4 credits from the following:

MATH 107X (3) _____
 OR MATH 131X (except for BBA) (3) _____
 OR MATH 161X (3) _____
 MATH 200X (4) _____
 MATH 201X (4) _____
 MATH 202X (4) _____
 MATH 262X (4) _____
 MATH 272X (3) _____

NOTE: Additional 3 cr of math needed for degree requirements.

NATURAL SCIENCES (8)

Complete 8 credits from the following:

ATM 101X (4) _____
 BIOL 103X OR 104X (4) _____
 BIOL 105X-106X (8) _____
 BIOL 111X-112X (8) _____
 CHEM 100X (4) _____
 CHEM 103X-104X (8) _____
 CHEM 105X-106X (8) _____
 GEOG 205X (4) _____
 GEOS 100X OR 120X OR 125X (4) _____
 GEOS 101X-112X (8) _____
 MSL 111X (4) _____
 PHYS 102X OR 175X (4) _____
 PHYS 103X-104X (8) _____
 PHYS 211X-212X (8) _____
 PHYS 211X-213X (8) _____
 PHYS 212X-213X (8) _____