San José State University School of Information

School Overview and Teacher Librarian Program

Sandra Hirsh (Professor and Director, San José State University) Mary Ann Harlan (Assistant Professor, San José State University)

WATASHI WA Sandra Hirsh DESU. Thank you for the invitation to speak with you today about the San José State University School of Information.

I would like to first introduce myself and my co-presenter, Dr. Mary Ann Harlan. As director and professor of the School of Information at SJSU, I am excited to talk about our school, our programs, and our unique 100% online structure. Dr. Mary Ann Harlan is an assistant professor at the iSchool. She also serves as the iSchool's teacher librarian coordinator and will specifically present about the teacher librarian credentialing program.

San José State University is a public university located in Silicon Valley in San José, California, in the Western United States. According to *Money* magazine, San José State University is one of the top "transformative" colleges in the nation.

One area that the university is particularly transformative is the School of Information, also known as the "iSchool," which currently educates over 2,000 graduate students annually – all in a 100% online environment. The programs offered through the iSchool prepare stu-



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Dr. Sandra Hirsh, Professor and Director Dr. Mary Ann Harlan, Assistant Professor August 2019

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Part 1: SJSU iSchool Overview



Dr. Sandra HirshDirector and Professor
San José State University

Part 2: Teacher Librarian Credential



Dr. Mary Ann Harlan Assistant Professor Teacher Librarian Coordinator San José State University



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Part I: San José State University School of Information (iSchool)





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dents to work in a range of information-related careers both in libraries and in other environments.

The iSchool offers several degree and certificate programs. Our Masters Degree programs include:

- The Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS), which is accredited by the American Library Association and prepares students for a wide range of careers in the information professions.
- The Master of Archives & Records Administration (MARA), and
- The Master of Science (MS) in Informatics.



Our Teacher Librarian Credential prepares students for employment in K-12 schools. More on this program later in the presentation.

We also offer 2 certificate programs, including the Advanced Certificate in Digital Assets and Services and the Post-Master's Certificate in Library and Information Science, as well as a Gateway PhD program.

Within the MLIS degree, the iSchool offers 14 different Career Pathways, ranging from academic librarianship to data science to leadership and management to youth services. Career pathways showcase some of the diverse career directions students can pursue with their MLIS degree. As you can see, Teacher Librarianship is also one of the career pathways that is offered. These pathways provide

Career Pathways Academic Librarianship Leadership and Management ◆ Data Science * Management, Digitization Digital Curation and Preservation of Cultural ❖ <u>Digital Services</u> Heritage and Records Emerging Technologies and ❖ Public Librarianship **Digital Services** Special Librarianship **❖** Information Intermediation * Teacher Librarianship and Instruction Web Programming and Information Organization, Information Architecture Description, Analysis and Youth Services Retrieval https://ischool.sjsu.edu/mlis-career-pathways SJSU | SCHOOL OF INFORMATION

students with information about the types of jobs they can pursue in each pathway, as well as recommended coursework and other professional development ideas to prepare them for the careers they desire.

The iSchool has been delivering all of its degrees and certificates entirely and exclusively online for more than 10 years. In our online programs:

- Courses are delivered primarily asynchronously.
- Training is offered to both faculty and students on how to teach and learn

online.

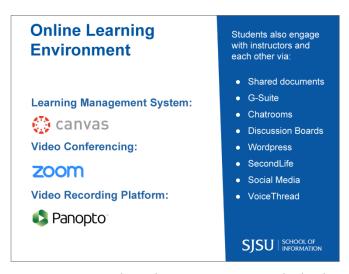
The iSchool program has benchmarked against online standards.

The School of Information is a recognized leader in online education and has received the Online Learning Consortium's Outstanding Online Program award. The iSchool's online environment enriches the learning experience through multimedia experiences and introduces students



to interactive online tools they will use throughout their professional careers.

We use a variety of tools to facilitate learning and encourage engagement in our online environment. Our learning management system is Canvas. All students log into Canvas to access their courses, contact instructors and/or fellow students, receive grading feedback, create e-Portfolio evidence, and more. Zoom and Panopto are frequently used for video conferencing and/or recording, collaborating on projects,



webinars, and more. Other tools that instructors and students often use include the Google suite, social media, SecondLife, VoiceThread, and more.

Due to the online nature of our iSchool and the various pathways students can pursue, the iSchool at SJSU attracts a diverse demographic.

This next slide demonstrates the number of enrolled students in the fall semester over the past 5 years, sorted by geographic location:

- U.S. students living in California
- U.S. students not living in California, and
- International students.



The last column shows the total number of students across all of these categories. As you can see, the majority of our students are California-based residents but we have strong enrollments across the U.S. and internationally as well.

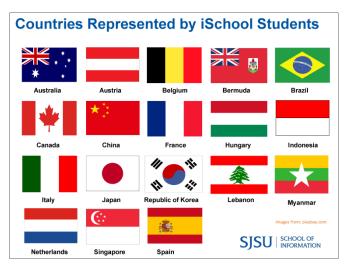
Countries represented by the iSchool students include Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Myanmar, Netherlands, Singapore, and Spain.

Here we can see the number of students awarded certificates or degrees in the past 5 years. As you can see, the majority of our students earn a Master's in Library and Information Science. The Master's in Archives and Records Administration and Post-Master's Certificates tend to attract fewer students than the MLIS program, but offer unique opportunities for interested students.

Total Enrolled Students in Last 5 Years

Term	US-CA	US-Not CA	Intl	Total
Fall 2018	1312	761	45	2118
Fall 2017	1186	771	60	2017
Fall 2016	1161	829	77	2067
Fall 2015	1072	807	77	1956
Fall 2014	1082	712	78	1872





Certificates/Degrees Awarded

Term	MLIS	MARA	РМС
2018-2019*	498	15	8
2017-2018	507	12	14
2016-2017	499	11	14
2015-2016	486	16	17
2014-2015	488	11	15

*Academic terms include Fall, Spring, and Summer Semesters



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I will now talk briefly about international aspects of our iSchool.

The iSchool's Strategic Plan states that the school is committed to promoting "internationalization in courses through content, assignments, internships, and professional contacts of iSchool faculty."

To that end, students must demonstrate that they, by the time of graduation, "understand global perspectives on effective information practices that are supportive of cultural, economic, educational, or social well-being." In doing so, students will become leaders who are cognizant and adaptive to the dynamic changes and realities of the global community.

To align with this strategic goal, the iSchool has created international requirements for all students; students must demonstrate mastery over this international competency in their e-Portfolio at the end of the program. Students can accomplish this in several ways.

Most iSchool courses include at least one international assignment. Additionally, the iSchool offers many courses with a global focus such as

- International Librarianship,
- Intercultural Communication,
- Examination of Global Library

 Issues Using Project-Based Learning, and
- Globalization and Information.

 We also offer foreign language classes in Spanish.

There are also various study abroad opportunities available for SJSU students. We work alongside other universities that have established study abroad opportunities. Most commonly, students will simply transfer study abroad credits from another







university. For instance, one study abroad opportunity currently available is in Greece and is offered through the University of Missouri. Another is in Seoul, South Korea and created by Simmons University. Students can also gain international experience through many other opportunities, including through on site internships in international countries or through virtual internships with international partners.

For the Teacher Librarian program, we do not address international experience in our course offerings specifically. However, as most teacher librarians earn not only their teacher librarian credential, but also their Master in Library and Information Science degree, they have these same international opportunities and requirements.

Another way in which our iSchool aligns with our strategic goal of promoting internationalization is through the professional contacts of the iSchool faculty. International conferences are key to both gaining and sharing enhanced perspectives, creating networks of change leaders, and becoming globally-minded information professionals. As an example, I am involved with the International Federation of Library



Associations and Institutions (IFLA), Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T), and Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) (I am incoming President Elect of this association), and Mary Ann is involved with the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL).

Now I will discuss some of the policies and requirements for our School's programs.

All iSchool admissions are handled centrally in the San José State University Admissions Office. MLIS requirements are:

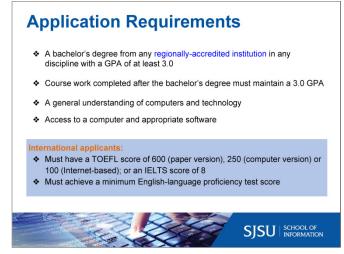
 A bachelor's degree from any regionally accredited institution in any discipline with a GPA of at least 3.0.



- Course work completed after the bachelor's degree must maintain a 3.0 GPA.
- Students must possess a general understanding of computers and technology.
- Have access to a computer with an Internet connection and appropriate

software.

• International applicants must have a TOEFL score of 600 (paper version), 250 (computer version), or 100 (Internet-based); or an IELTS score of 8. They also must achieve a minimum English-language proficiency test score.



For the information on Admission and Requirements, please see https://ischool.sjsu.edu/mlis-admissions-requirements.

This table illustrates the number of credits each certificate or degree offered at the iSchool requires, as well as the cost to complete the program. To earn a Master in Library and Information Science, students must complete a total of 43 credits, which includes 16 units of required courses and 27 units of electives. The MLIS degree costs \$20,382 to complete. Books are extra but not all classes use books. To earn a

Program	Cost per Unit	Number of Units	Total Cost*
Master of Library and Information Science	\$474	43	\$20,382
Teacher Librarianship plus MLIS	\$474	43	\$20,382
Teacher Librarianship only	\$474	31	\$14,694
Master of Archives and Records Management	\$474	42	\$19,908
MS in Informatics	\$525	30	\$15,750
Post Master's Certificate	\$474	16	\$7,584
Advanced Certificate in Digital Assets and Services	\$474	9	\$4,266

California Library Media Teacher Services Credential, students must complete 31 credit hours.

Students may also transfer up to 9 semester units to their MLIS program from San José State University or from other accredited institutions.

To maintain the overall quality of our program and to ensure students are well prepared to enter the information professions by the time they graduate, the iSchool has the following policies and requirements in place:

- In the first 4 weeks of their first semester, students must successfully complete a one-unit introductory course, INFO 203: Online Learning Tools and Strategies for Success, which covers our online learning technology and ensures that they will know how to learn and thrive in our online program.
- Students must maintain a B or better in each of our 3 required core classes: INFO 200: Information Communities, INFO 202: Information Retrieval System

Design, and INFO 204: Information Professions.

- Students must maintain a C or better in any elective class (but they still need to maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.0)
- Students must maintain an overall 3.0 grade point average to graduate.
- MLIS students are required to do a culminating experience.
 This can be a thesis, although

most students opt to create an e-Portfolio as evidence of achieving program outcomes.

Basic Policies

Maintain a 3.0 overall GPA

Teacher Librarian Program:

Achieve a C or better to pass electives

❖ Pass INFO 203: Online Learning Tools and Strategies for

Maintain a B or better in all three required core classes

Do a culminating experience: e-portfolio or thesis

135 clock hours mentored by practicing, credentialed TL

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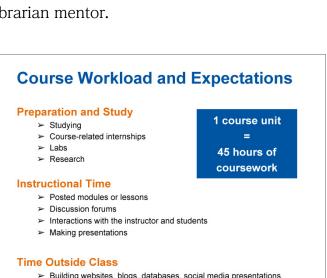
Students must:

Success

• Teacher Librarians must obtain 135 hours of experience in a school library under a practicing, credentialed teacher librarian mentor.

Success in our programs is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course for instruction or preparation/studying or course-related activities, including but not limited to internships and labs. This typically equals 3 hours per unit per week -- with 1 of the hours used for lecture.

Instructional time may include,



attending study groups, online discussion, writing papers, reading

but is not limited to: Working on posted modules or lessons prepared by the instructor; discussion forum interactions with the instructor and/or other students; making presentations and getting feedback from the instructor; and attending office hours or other synchronous sessions with the instructor.

Students are also expected to spend time outside of class. In any 7-day period, a student is expected to be academically engaged by submitting an academic assignment, taking an exam or an interactive tutorial, or computer-assisted instruction, building websites, blogs, databases, social media presentations, attending a study group, contributing to an academic online discussion, writing papers, reading articles, conducting research, and engaging in small group work.

Most of the students in our programs are part-time students. They frequently are working full-or part-time in libraries and other information centers. They also often have other commitments, such as families that they are caring for. The majority of students in the MLIS program complete the degree in between 2.5-3.5 years. The Teacher Librarian Credential is most commonly completed in 2-2.5 years. Students must complete all of our Master's degree programs within a maximum of 7 years.

I will now discuss some of the ways that our School is providing career support and professional development.

The iSchool has developed extensive online resources to help students, alumni, and prospective students navigate their job searching and career strategies, in addition to learning about emerging trends and how to stay abreast of the latest skills.

Resources available include: instructional advising, career planning, networking, job search strategies, networking skills (such as using social media for the job search), and a variety of career podcasts and online workshops. A unique

Course Duration

- Varies most students are part-time
 - ➤ MLIS frequently between 2.5 to 3.5 years
 - ➤ Teacher Librarianship is commonly completed in 2 to 2.5 years
- Must complete program within 7 years



Career Support and Professional Development



iSchool Career Assistance

- Instructional Advising
- ❖ iSchool Career Consultant
- Career direction and planning
 - ➤ Job search strategies
 - > Resumes, cover letters
 - ➤ Interviewing tips
- Networking opportunities
 - ➤ Social Media
 - ➤ How to create and expand a career e-portfolio
- Career podcasts, online workshops



offering of the iSchool is our Career Consultant who provides students and alumni essential tips for their career management, reviews and critiques resumes, and provides many hours of webinars, blog posts, and more to help students achieve their professional career goals.

The iSchool provides many professional development opportunities – both to students and to information professionals. The iSchool offers formal professional development learning options, such as the post-master's certificate and the advanced certificate in digital assets and services, which we have already discussed.

In addition, the iSchool offers several free and easy to access learning opportunities, such as:



- The Library 2.0 virtual conference series, which are free mini conferences that enable information professionals from around the world to learn, engage, and network with each other on the latest trends, competencies, and issues in the library and information landscape.
- There are a variety of free webinars offered by the iSchool that are useful for staying abreast of the latest ideas and issues.
- With this brief overview of the San José State University School of Information, I would now like to invite Dr. Mary Ann Harlan to provide you with more detailed information about our Teacher Librarian Credential Program.

Hello, my name is Dr. Mary Ann Harlan and I am the Teacher Librarianship Coordinator for the iSchool. I am excited to be here with you today.

Teacher librarianship is one of the exciting career pathways students can follow within the SJSU MLIS program. Teacher Librarian students can also earn their Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) degree by completing 12 additional units. Students who earn their MLIS degrees are qualified for additional career opportunities outside of K-12.

In the U.S. school libraries are hubs for student learning, research,



and personal inquiry. Through their professional practice, programs, and spaces, school librarians remain future-ready, following many of the principles and goals of the Future Ready Schools initiative (outlined in this graph). In doing so, "school librarians connect their practices, programs, and spaces to educational innovation in schools," expanding a myriad of learning opportunities and experiences for students

across all ages and grades. These elements are emphasized in our teacher librarian pathway.

We also address emerging trends in conjunction with fundamental pieces of school librarianship. Trends we are seeing in today's school libraries most often involve spaces, practices and programs. Three important trends in school librarianship currently are:

- Personalized inquiry learning
- Makerspaces
- Increased digital access.

Personalized inquiry learning is about students generating meaningful personal questions that drive their learning and can be customized and embedded by subject or grade level. Teacher-librarians are uniquely capable of encouraging personalized inquiry learning. They know the resources in the library, how to find them, and how to help students become independent researchers and learners.

Another ongoing trend in school libraries in the U.S. is increased digital access. Technology has had a significant impact on school libraries and their effectiveness. Identifying software, ebooks, and other technology that combines critical thinking and information literacy is a powerful tool for the school librarian. One-to-one computing and mobile computing — allowing each student to use an







electronic device in order to access digital textbooks, the Internet, or other digital materials -- is becoming more and more common.

Another trend that has been going on in school libraries is the use of makerspaces. Once a quiet space, school libraries are evolving into hands-on, creative, active, and collaborative learning environments and makerspaces are a part of that movement.

In a school library makerspace, you might see students using computers, video editing tools, building with legos, or using traditional arts and craft materials to solve a problem. Materials and the space provided in the library makerspace should promote learning through personal inquiry, creativity, innovation, and collaboration.

Graduates of the Teacher Librarian program at the iSchool will emerge with a specialization in the functions and skills necessary to meet the demands of these trends addressed in the previous slides as well as provide skills in instructional design, school library materials, collaboration, technology leadership, and program administration. The Teacher Librarian program requires the completion of 31 units, including



Teacher Librarianship Overview

- ❖ 31 units
- Embedded in the MLIS program
- Meets the California Teacher Librarian Services Credential
- CA Teacher Librarian requires a pre-requisite teaching credential
- Key focus on instructional design, school library materials and programs, and fieldwork.



the School Library Fieldwork Capstone course. Students have the option to complete additional courses and earn a Master of Library and Information Science degree, expanding their career opportunities in the information professions.

The Teacher Librarian program course work meets the requirements for the California Teacher Librarian Services Credential. It is designed to meet professional standards for California Teacher Librarians and requires a pre-requisite teaching credential. While the focus is on California, we also have students from other states and internationally and our program meets their standards.

The Teacher Librarianship pathway attracts online students from around the globe.

- While 70% of teacher librarian students reside in California, we do have students from other states and internationally.
- International students are represented most commonly as Americans working in international schools.

• Countries represented in the Teacher Librarianship program include: Panama, Russia, India, Ecuador, and Germany.

It is important to note that non-U.S. student do not enter the United States to attend San José State University.

Due to the restrictions placed on online classes by US Citizenship and Immigration Services, the MLIS program cannot enroll interna-

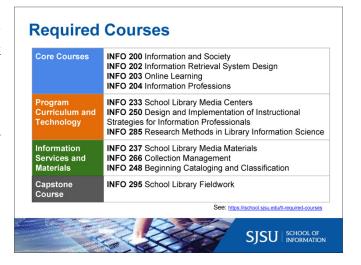


tional students who are in the United States and want to take classes while in the United States. The MLIS program is only available in an online format.

This table demonstrates the required courses for teacher librarians at the iSchool. As you can see, the required courses are broken down into 4 core courses, 3 program

curriculum and technology courses, 3 information services and materials courses, and a capstone fieldwork course. The rigorous coursework is designed to develop teacher librarians who are prepared to be contributors and innovators for their school communities.

To complete the required 43 units of course work for the MLIS degree, students add 4 more courses to the 31 units of required coursework for the Teacher Librarian Services Credential -- specifically three elective courses and INFO 289 Advanced Topics in Library and Information Science (e-Portfolio) or INFO 299 Thesis. This slide exhibits the various elective courses teacher librarians who are pursuing their MLIS degree can choose from to meet the credit requirements.



Elective Courses INFO 210 Reference and Information Services INFO 240 Information Technology Tools and Applications INFO 241 Automated Library Systems INFO 246 Information Technology Tools and Applications-Advanced **INFO 260A** Programming and Services for Children INFO 261A Programming and Services for Young Adults INFO 267 Seminar in Services to Youth INFO 275: Library Services for Racially and Ethnically Diverse Communities INFO 281: Seminar in Contemporary Issues INFO 282: Seminar in Library Management - (Topic: Grant Writing) INFO 283: Marketing of Information Products and Services INFO 286: Interpersonal Communication Skills for Librarians INFO 287: Seminar in Information Science SISU | SCHOOL OF INFORMATION

Our course offerings for teacher librarians use innovative approaches to learning, such as the required course INFO 250: Design and Implementation of Instructional Strategies for Information Professionals. In this course, students collaborate with classroom teachers/professors to gain real-world experience with planning, teaching, and assessment of learning activities using the library's resources and technology.

Innovative Classes

Design and Implementation of Instructional Strategies for Information Professionals

- . Collaboration practice with a classroom teacher
- Online learning resources and opportunities
- School community contributes and helps build out learning environments

School Library Media Materials

- Focused teaching sets for resources that are multimodal
- Reflective teaching and learning built in





In the process, they collaborate with teachers and students to build online libraries of resources and techniques to facilitate inquiry. They learn the value of collaboration and cooperation with their school community, including learners, other teachers/designers, and management, in the development of learner-centered instruction.

Similarly, in INFO 237: School Library Media Materials course, students collaborate to create online learning experiences for K12 students using a variety of formats and

materials. These learning experience exist well beyond the end of the course and are used in K12 schools.

Students who earn their teacher credential from San José State University are expected to demonstrate:

- an understanding of the role of teacher librarian as instructor;
- an understanding of 21st century literacies;
- an understanding of information organization;
- capacity as a program manager;
- an understanding of the teacher librarian as a staff leader; and
- willingness to engage in advocacy.

According to a 2018 report of students in the teacher librarian program:

• 51% are working in school li-

Teacher Librarian Program Outcomes

Students will demonstrate:

- an understanding of the role of teacher librarian as instructor,
- an understanding of 21st century literacies,
- an understanding of information organization,
- capacity as a program manager,
- an understanding of the teacher librarian as a staff leader, and
- a willingness to engage in advocacy.

See: https://ischool.sjsu.edu/tl-program-learning-outcomes

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2018 Teacher Librarianship Job Placements

- ❖ 51% work in a school library as a Teacher Librarian
- 16% work as clerks
- ❖ 22% work in a classroom
- 11% work in other forms of employment

We are seeing a 10% increase in employed Teacher Librarians as they transition the program.



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braries as teacher librarians

- 16% are working in school libraries as clerks
- 22% are currently working in classrooms; and
- 11% have other forms of employment

According to the survey, we are seeing a 10% increase in employed teacher librarians as they transition the program.

Today we discussed the San José State University's School of Information (the iSchool), the online nature of our program, as well as some of the policies, admissions, and requirements for our programs. We also specifically highlighted our Teacher Librarianship program, which not only attracts students from California, but also from across the globe. We have much more information available on our website, including program brochures, testimonials, alumni updates and stories, and more. Thank you for this great opportunity to come and speak to you today!

We are happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you again!



This paper is based on a presentation given in the symposium "Road to the Future: School and Children's Librarianship 子どものための図書館サービス専門職養成の国際動向" held on August 4, 2019 in Sapporo, Japan.

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