

Special Collections and Archives, Graduate Certificate

Requirements

The graduate Certificate in Special Collections and Archives requires 18 s.h. of coursework. Students must receive a grade of B- or higher in all certificate courses and a passing score in the SLIS Capstone Portfolio course to obtain the certificate. The certificate may be completed by any student currently enrolled in the MA in Library and Information Science.

Please note that Undergrad to Grad (U2G) students must work very closely with their advisor to ensure completion of this certificate, and it may lengthen time to degree. U2G students may only take certificate courses during their second graduate year.

Students select a focus on either special collections or archives. While the special collections focus has on-campus opportunities, either focus can be completed fully online.

The certificate is designed to prepare students for work in special collections, archives, manuscript repositories, and other organizations that preserve primary source materials. Students who complete the certificate have this specialization reflected on their transcript.

The required coursework for the Certificate in Special Collections and Archives balances foundational knowledge of the history, theory, and ethics of the profession with practical training in the care, use, and organization of special collections and archives, while promoting the development of technological competencies, research skills, and primary source literacies needed for careers working with unique and distinct collections.

Students should express interest in the certificate as part of their application to the Master of Arts in Library and Information Science, and plan to apply in October during their first semester in the program. Students should expect to lengthen their time to degree if they are pursuing both the Certificate in Special Collections and Archives and the Book Arts and Book Studies certificate.

Required Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
SLIS:5630	Introduction to Special Collections and Archives	3
SLIS:6350	Archives: Theory and Practice	3
SLIS:6355	Public Services and Community Engagement for Special Collections and Archives	3
SLIS:6800	Applied Research in Archives and Special Collections	3

Focus Areas

Students select one of the following focus areas to complete.

Special Collections Focus

Course #	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
SLIS:6255	Rare Book Cataloging	3
SLIS:6600	Curation and Collection Development for Special Collections	3

Archives Focus

Course #	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
SLIS:6145	Digital Preservation and Stewardship	3
SLIS:6700	Ethical Artificial Intelligence in Cultural Heritage Institutions	3

Required Capstone

This course will be taken in the final semester of a student's MA in Library and Information Science.

Course #	Title	Hours
SLIS:7900	SLIS Graduation Seminar	0