

Fachhochschule Köln
Cologne University of Applied Sciences

Library and Information Science (LIS)

Bachelor of Arts

institut für
Informationswissenschaft





Introduction

If you have an interest in studying Library and Information Science this brochure will answer many of the questions you may have.

Social change and fast developments in information technology have caused an increasing demand on librarians' activities and, as a consequence, impose the need for highly qualified personnel in libraries. The LIS course in Cologne delivers skills for collection, retention and preservation, indexing and the provision of information. Students will also gain competence in the management of smaller information institutions and the efficient use of information technology.



Commencement

The Institute of Information Science at the Faculty of Information and Communication Sciences offers a Bachelor degree "Library and Information Science" from winter semester 07/08 onwards. Courses will begin in September 2007.

General entry requirements

The "Fachhochschulreife (entrance qualification for studies at universities of applied sciences) with both academic and practical elements, "Abitur" (A levels), or a comparable degree qualify for UAS studies.

► [Further Information about the qualification](#)

A further requirement is a four week internship in a library of your choice. Through this internship prospective students will gain their first experiences in the daily routine of a librarian.

The internship can take place at: Public libraries (city or community libraries), academic libraries (university or UAS libraries) as well as special libraries (companies or publicly supported).

► [Further Information about the internship](#)



Duration of Study, Term Times and Deadlines

The Bachelor's degree in Library and Information Science lasts a total of six semesters.

Each semester lasts six months, with lectures being held in about five months of this time.

* Winter term:
Sept. 1 to Feb. 28

* Summer term:
Mar. 1 to Aug. 31

Deadline for admission to the Bachelor's degree is July 15.

Application for this course will be for entry in the winter term only. Admission will depend on locally determined grade point average (Orts-NC).



Study Information

Objectives and mission statement of the Bachelor degree in Library and Information Science

The Bachelor degree in Library and Information Sciences qualifies graduates to act independently in the execution of librarians' activities within and beyond librarianship.

The content and intention of this degree course are aimed at both the current requirements for librarians as well as future developments in information science. Graduates of the Bachelor degree in Library and Information Science are in a position to tackle the difficult and complex tasks of a librarian. Thanks to their contextual knowledge, they are able to contribute to the development and realisation

of strategic concepts. This innovative skill is a precondition that libraries – in their function of learning institutions – take an active role in the extremely dynamic development of the information landscape.



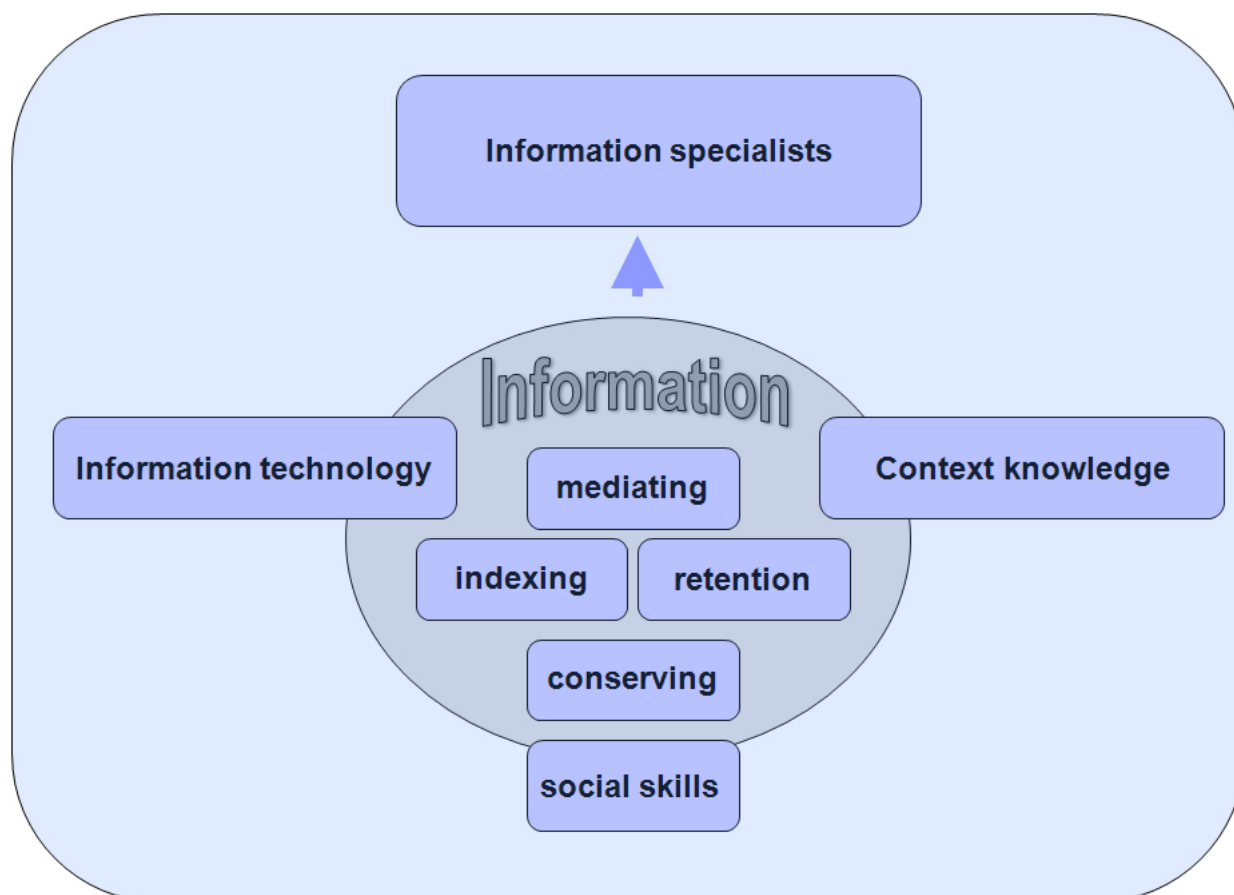
Study information

Objectives and mission statement of the Bachelor degree in Library and Information Science (continued)

The course of studies gains its specific profile by qualifying for the work in different library types and information facilities in a multidisciplinary way.

As well as the teaching of methods and instrumental knowledge, the course of studies

aims at the acquisition of context knowledge and thus at innovation skills. Graduates are therefore able to manage smaller facilities or to take over the management of smaller functional units or teams within bigger facilities





Study information

Essential profile features/Final degree

After successful completion of academic studies, the Bachelor of Arts (B.A) in Library and Information Science is awarded.

The course provides the following core competencies:

- * Customized stock development and information brokerage
- * Long-term storage and supply of media and information
- * Application oriented indexing of information
- * Development, design and evaluation of customer-oriented information services
- * Management of small information institutions or single function areas
- * Application of information technologies in libraries and information institutions

The standard length of study is 6 semesters, of which practical training is included in the fourth semester. Intake is limited to 70 students per academic year. This course replaces the previous Diploma course in Library and Information Science.



Study information

Expected skills, abilities and interests

As a prospective librarian, what is expected of you?

There are lots of cliches about librarians which have nothing in common with reality. As a future librarian you should be interested in information technology as well as modern management techniques and the spectrum of current information services.

The following are also important: Service orientation, communication skills, analytical thinking as well as a good educational background. Good language skills in German and English are also needed.



Structure and course of the study, Credits

The core competencies of the course will be taught in six subjects, intertwined factually and professionally. These subjects subdivide into different modules lasting one or two semesters. A primary feature of the course is the accompanied practical training lasting 20 weeks during the fourth semester.

Fairly soon after the conclusion of a module follows the corresponding exam. Exam results are evaluated according to the credit system ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). 30 credits are to be achieved each semester. Overall 180 credits are required for successful graduation.

The course envisages that the most important key competencies are taught within the subject-specific oriented lectures. This is, among other things, achieved by offering only a limited number of formal lectures. Types of contact are instead:

- * Seminars
- * Small groups for tutorials and laboratory courses
- * Teamwork and project work
- * Video-based presentation training
- * Web-based distance learning elements



Modules

A Library, Information, Society

- typology and structures of library science and library policy
- structures in the field of information, culture, sciences and education
- library history
- library and information sociology; information ethics
- special forms of library science
- library science abroad

B Management

- Library business operations and management, library law
- Customer research / CRM in libraries
- Marketing and media presentation
- Applied statistics, quantitative and qualitative data analysis
- Cost accounting for libraries
- Assembly and development of inventory

C Structured document description, meta-data

- principles of (structured) document description, meta-data
- descriptive cataloguing
- principles of knowledge organisation and knowledge representation
- subject indexing, automatic indexing
- special software for information indexing and knowledge organisation
- methods, techniques and practice of information retrieval

D Information tools and services, reference service

- catalogues and bibliographies
- encyclopaedias, biographical and other reference books
- library services, enquiry and provision of information
- hosts and databases
- virtual libraries, information portals / gateways to information
- provision of information literacy



Modules

E literature and media, fiction and non-fiction

- media and communication
- fiction: eras and genres
- fiction: juvenile literature / presentation types / literature market
- literature and cinematic adaptations
- non-fiction and book trade

PRJ librarian selection-project

- topical subjects in library and information science or
- management and organisation or
- practice of structured document description, data formats, data exchange or
- methods and practice of information intermediation or
- literature and culture in practice of media or
- IT-application in librarian practice

F IT-basics, databases, data exchange, practical application

- basic principles of IT
- library systems
- telecommunication
- databases, SQL
- electronic publishing, XML, HTML
- use of IT-systems in libraries
- choice of software /graphical user interface (GUI)
- multimedia /MMDB /CMS

PP internship

- planning and organising the internship
- project management
- interim report
- presentation and evaluation of the internship

BA Bachelor's dissertation

- preparation of the Bachelor's dissertation

▶ Curriculum: Degree course scheme



Master degree

Following on from the Bachelor degree in Library and Information science various Master degrees can be taken. The Institute of Information Science is planning two Master courses. The Master course "Marketing and Media Research" is planned to be available immediately after the Bachelor degree course. The Master's degree in "Library and Information Science" is designed as a part-time study course.

Alternatively other universities or universities of applied sciences offer a variety of Master courses. The particular university decides on admission.

Master courses at other universities (a selection):

- * "Library and Information Management" (Stuttgart Media University)
- * "Library and Information Science" (Humboldt University Berlin)
- * "Master of Arts in Information Science and Management" (Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, anticipated from winter term 08/09)
- * "Information and Knowledge Management" (Hanover University of Applied Sciences and Arts)
- * "Information Science and Engineering" (Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences)



Typical occupational fields

During the degree course students will gain professional and interdisciplinary skills.

The main activities of an information specialist: collection, retention and preservation, indexing and information brokering in public or commercial institutions are challenging tasks and in the future there will be a demand for highly qualified information specialists. There is a growing occupational outlook for certified librarians in the economic sector. Whether law firms or management consultants: professional information management by librarians is essential in many institutions.

Competences of information specialists are aimed at a wide range of professional application possibilities, e.g.:

- * librarian/information specialist in public institutions or private enterprises
- * employee in companies with a business focus on libraries (e.g., software producer, publishers)
- * information specialist for hosts
- * designers of information services and products
- * information researcher/information broker



Eva Hendrichs

Institution: Solingen Public Library

Position: System Administrator

Already before and during my studies I was employed at Solingen public library. After my graduation I took up the position of system administrator, a job in which I still work. The public library is located in the city centre. 50 opening hours per week and a lot of events make it a lively and highly-frequented public institution. In 2007 it was nominated for the Library of the Year Award.

Part of my job as system administrator is to look after our 43 staff PCs, the 28 OPACs and the respective peripheral equipment. I am also responsible for the technical maintenance of the library homepage, the parameterisation of our library system and the management of relationships to our computer centre and the I&C department (co-ordination unit for information and communication technology) at the local city council.

My remaining working hours are filled with library activities: I work as subject specialist for history, literature, religion and technology and do regular hours at the information service desk.



Practical Insights



information services
gwasanaethau gwybodaeth

Sonja Härkönen

Institution: Cardiff University, Wales

Position: Subject Librarian - European Studies and Psychology



I have worked as a specialist librarian for European Studies and Psychology at Cardiff University since 2004. Cardiff University focuses on research and is in the top twenty of the best British universities (Russell Group) in Great Britain. The university employs about 5500 people and has more than 25000 students, spread over 28 faculties.

Among my tasks are the communication of information competency, the support of students and employees of my faculty, and budget and inventory management. I am also in charge of the specialist websites. Together with two colleagues I make up the management committee for the South Wales Europe Direct Information Centre (SWEDIC). I am also involved in many projects and working groups, for example the 'Research Support Group', the 'Library Buildings Steering Group' and the 'Virtual Librarian' Project. Additionally, I am a member of the South Wales Europe Direct Information Centre (SWEDIC) Management Committee, the INSRV Research Support Group, the Library Buildings Steering Group, the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP), the CILIP University, College & Research Group (UC&R) Wales Committee

I always try to keep up with developments in my country by visiting lectures and the Bibliothekartag (specialist library and information fair in Germany).



Antje Brunner

Institution: Freiburg University Library

Position: Librarian at the information service department / library IT coordinator / book processing



Universitätsbibliothek Freiburg i.Br.

My current position is at Freiburg University Library, an academic library which was founded some 550 years ago. Its collections comprise more than 3.5 million books plus a multitude of other media types. The library also offers a wide range of services for learning and researching. In 2006 it was ranked second in the Bibliotheksindex (BIX), a nationwide comparison of academic libraries.

During the first four months of my employment, I took an active part in reorganising the whole web site and transferring all pages from HTML to a Content Management System. The aim was to create a corporate look and feel for the university and its departments and institutes in the course of corporate identity. Another part of my duties involves the work in the information service department, in particular answering enquiries face-to-face, by telephone, chat and e-mail. I also offer library tours and give assistance to the colleagues at the Competence and Learning Centre.

My job also includes the administration of the electronic university calendar. Here the library announces dates for upcoming library instructions in all subjects. For a short time and on a half-day basis I have been involved in book processing and dealt with literary bequests in particular. In the future, I will be taking over responsibility for the department's web pages.

Practical Insights



Martin Spangenberg

Institution: Federal parliament of Germany

Position: Administration clerk for electronic media



I am in charge of the administration of electronic media at the Library of the German Parliament (Bundestag). The library is mainly responsible for providing members of parliament, parliamentary parties and the administration with literature and information.

Its collections hold more than 1.3 million volumes and subscribes to about 7000 current periodicals. This makes the Library of the German Bundestag the third biggest parliamentary library in the world alongside Washington and Tokio.

My duties include reviewing the market for electronic media and the acquisition of licenses. Furthermore I am involved in indexing electronic periodicals and databases for the library catalogue and the intranet. I also evaluate user statistics. Within the framework of expanding our electronic services I am taking part in launching a link resolver. This special software leads the library user directly from a literature quote in the catalogue to the full text version. In addition, I am in charge of implementing personalised services which allow users to adapt electronic services to their individual preferences. As a deputy executive at the periodica department I take an active part in developing and enhancing the local library system and I am also responsible for the guidance of new employees, trainees and interns.



Anne Jacobs

Institution/Company: ARQIS Rechtsanwälte (Lawyers), Düsseldorf

Position: Information Professional



ARQIS RECHTSANWÄLTE

Since its founding in January 2006 I have been responsible for the fields of library, research and management of information and knowledge at ARQIS lawyers. ARQIS is a partnership for transaction oriented advice with a focus on international projects. Listed societies as well as middle-class enterprises, finance investors, finance service providers and subsidiaries of multinational groups are clients of ARQIS. As well as all "classical" library tasks in a small special library a main focus of my activities is on research, information supply and mediation of information competence. I supply our lawyers with daily information about innovations in law, adjudication, enterprise and branch information or with articles from the press about our clients. Another task is the installation and development of knowledge management in our office. The aim is to collect the explicit and implied knowledge within the office, to process and to provide it on a sustained basis for the employees.



Practical Insights



Marie-Luise Fritz

Company: GLOMAS Deutschland GmbH

Position: STAR Application development



I work at GLOMAS Deutschland GmbH in Munich. My duties comprise application development and customer support. GLOMAS has marketed the software "Cuadra STAR", which had originally been programmed in the United States since 1984. Based on STAR, the company develops application solutions for libraries, parliaments, I&D departments, museums and archives.

My job is very broad and diversified. In co-operation with customers I prepare requirement specifications for new product developments and enhancements. These I develop according to discussion and also deal with the respective local installation. Another part of my job involves user training and courses for application development. Due to training activities and meetings with customers travelling is part of the job. Depending on my workload with projects I spend some hours each week at the telephone helpdesk.

Overall, an exciting and challenging job, where you learn a lot!

Internship Insights:

Linda Dzieran: „Staying cool with »friluftsliv«, -
Work Experiences in Tromso, Norway



Now it's up to you!

If you are interested in our Bachelor course please contact us via e-mail or telephone. Application forms are available for download ► [here](#).

Why not come along for a trial lecture?

General Information and Advice

Student Advisory Service:

GWZ / Centre for Humanities

Claudiusstraße 1, Raum 41

50678 Köln

Opening hours

Mo - Do 08:30 bis 12:00

Ms. Katia Bompani

Phone: +49(0)221 8275-3132

Fax: +49(0)221 8275-3131

E-Mail: bompani@zv.fh-koeln.de

www: [Study Advice](#)

www: [Exam Counselling,](#)
[Online-Service](#)

Course guidance and advice

Prof. Dr. Klaus Lepsky

Geisteswissenschaftliches Zentrum

Claudiusstraße 1, Raum 388

50678 Köln

Telefon: 0221/8275-3363

E-Mail: klaus.lepsky@fh-koeln.de

www: [Prof. Dr. Klaus Lepsky](#)

International Student Advisory Service

International Office

Fachhochschule Köln

Mainzer Straße 5, Raum 5

50678 Köln

Phone: +49(0)221 8275-3838

E-Mail: study@zv.fh-koeln.de

Opening Hours

Monday 09:00 bis 12:00

to Wednesday 13:00 bis 15:00

Thursdays by appointment
and Fridays only

www: [FH-Köln International Office](#)

