

## Specialization in Academic Libraries (MSLS)

Librarians in small academic libraries are often generalists and perform many types of tasks. In larger academic libraries, most librarians are more specialized and spend most of their time working in one area. This table covers some of the most common specializations with suggested courses for each.

	Focus on User Services	Focus on Collections	Focus on Management	Focus on Cataloging
<b>Required Courses</b>	---- Highly Recommended ----			
<b>Retrieval/Collecting</b> 501 Information Resources & Services 513 Resource Selection and Evaluation <b>Organization</b> 521 Organization of Materials I <b>Communication/ Interfaces</b> 500 Human Information Interactions <b>Design/Evaluation</b> 780 Research Methods* <b>Management</b> 461 Information Tools 585 Management for Info Professionals 992 Master's Paper (related to academic library issues)	701 Info Retrieval Search Strategies 788 User Education 841 Seminar in Academic Libraries  <u>At least ONE of:</u> 703 Science Information 704 Humanities and Social Science Info 705 Health Sciences Info 707 Govt Documents 709 Business Information 746 Music Librarianship 749 Art & Visual Info Mgmt	740 Digital Libraries 714 Managing Serials in an Electronic Age 841 Seminar in Academic Libraries  <u>At least ONE of:</u> 703 Science Information 704 Humanities and Social Science Info 705 Health Sciences Info 707 Govt Documents 709 Business Information 746 Music Librarianship 749 Art & Visual Info Mgmt	785 Human Resources Management 786 Marketing of Information Services 841 Seminar in Academic Libraries  A t least one course in Financial Management from SILS, School of Government or Kenan Flagler School of Business	535 Electronic Records Management 720 Metadata 721 Organization of Materials II 742 Indexing and Abstracting 841 Seminar in Academic Libraries
	---- Recommended ----			
	523 Database Systems I 582 Systems Analysis 740 Digital Libraries 793 Info Services for Special Populations 795 Prof Field Experience** 888 Seminar in Teaching and Academic Life	523 Database Systems I 556 Intro to Archives 582 Systems Analysis 857 Seminar in Rare Book Collections 795 Prof Field Experience**	523 Database Systems I 582 Systems Analysis 584 Information Ethics 795 Prof Field Experience**	523 Database Systems I 582 Systems Analysis 795 Prof Field Experience**

\* Courses with a prerequisite.

\*\* Work experience in Academic Libraries is an almost universal requirement for finding a position after graduation. If you do not have such experience (for example working as a graduate assistant in an academic library), the Professional Field Experience course is especially important.

Note: Students are encouraged to review the courses offered as INLS 490 or INLS 890 (special topics) each semester, as some of these courses may be relevant to this specialization.