

# Archives & Records Management (ARM)



The School of Information and Library Science (SILS) is ranked #1 in the nation for the Archives and Preservation specialty by *US News & World Report*. The activities of individuals and organizations leave documentary traces (e.g. letters, reports, photographs, maps, e-mail messages, Web pages, videos) that will inform the future about contemporary life. This documentary heritage will be essential for developing appropriate policies, holding public officials accountable, protecting the rights of citizens, promoting organizational sustainability, conveying social memory and allowing individuals to understand their own identities in relation to the past.

The amount of information being generated continues to grow every day, but this does not mean information will be available, usable or understandable in the future. A new generation of information professionals will be needed - working with those who create valuable information - to appraise, describe, preserve, interpret and provide meaningful access to records.

## Concentration of Study in ARM

The Concentration of Study in Archives and Record Management (ARM) at SILS provides students with the knowledge and skills required to work in archives, special collections, historical societies, records management units within organizations and various other curatorial environments. The principles and practices of ARM are based on provenance, collection-level arrangement, and attention to context, all of which are becoming increasingly relevant with the massive explosion of information across all sectors of society. Students with an ARM concentration can pursue either the Master's of Science Information Science or the Master's of Science in Library Science degree. Preparation for a career in archives and records management is not associated specifically with either one of the Master's degrees at SILS.

## Field Experience

There are numerous opportunities at UNC to apply and develop ARM skills through practical engagement. Just a few examples of field experience placements include the Southern Historical Collection, the Odum Institute for Research in Social Science, Documenting the American South, ibiblio, Ackland Art Museum, University Archives, and Information Technology Services. With Chapel Hill's close proximity to Raleigh, the Research Triangle Park, North Carolina State University and Duke University, students can also pursue opportunities in various settings such as public archives, colleges and universities, museums and cultural heritage sites, photographic and film collections, public libraries, foundations, government agencies and corporations.

To obtain application information please visit the Web site: [sils.unc.edu/programs/arm](https://sils.unc.edu/programs/arm). Please contact Drs. Helen Tibbo at [tibbo@ils.unc.edu](mailto:tibbo@ils.unc.edu) or Cal Lee at [callee@ils.unc.edu](mailto:callee@ils.unc.edu) the conveners and administrators of the program with questions about the ARM concentration.