

MSc(LIM) Specialist Strands

The MSc[LIM] encourages students to develop expertise within a preferred specialist area. These specialist strands build on the knowledge about library and information management gained during core courses. Five specialist strands are offered: Information Management (IM), Knowledge Management (KM), Librarianship (Lib), Archives and records management (AR) and Data science (DS). Students are required to complete two specialist courses under the 8-course curriculum or three specialist courses under the 10-course curriculum, which provide them with advanced theoretical knowledge and skills related to the area of the selected specialist strand. Additionally, students undertake an Independent Project where they apply, test, demonstrate, and extend their specialist knowledge under Faculty guidance. Students select one elective course under the 8-course curriculum or three elective courses under the 10-course curriculum from Master's-level courses within the Faculty of Education. This choice should contribute to broadening students' expertise and ability to explore, analytically, LIM and related issues.

Students have selected a specialist strand during the application period. Choice of a specialist strand can be changed within the first semester of studying in the MSc[LIM] but not later.

The following table provides a brief description of the content of the specialist strands, and examples of specific careers that graduates might pursue in future.

| <i>Specialist Strand</i> | <i>Examples of Content*</i> | <i>Examples of Careers**</i> |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Information Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IM & related frameworks • Analysis of information needs & information seeking behavior • Organizing information • Information retrieval strategies & techniques • Data mining • Information services design & evaluation • Records management systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information manager • Researcher • Chief information officer • Records manager • Archives manager • Privacy officer |
| Knowledge Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KM & related frameworks • Knowledge as organizational capital • How to capture tacit knowledge • Representing & sharing knowledge • Organizational learning • Taxonomies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge manager • Chief knowledge officer • Content & knowledge manager • Knowledge & learning officer • Business intelligence officer |
| Librarianship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IM & related frameworks • Analysis of information needs & information seeking behavior • Organizing of information • Information retrieval strategies & techniques • Information services design & evaluation • Collection development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Librarian • Cataloguer • Indexer |
| Archives and records management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archives and records management related frameworks • Analysis of recordkeeping requirements and systems • Analysis of administrative and regulatory requirements in operating an archives and records management programme • Principles and practices in records creation, classification, appraisal and disposal • Principles and practices in archival arrangement and description • Legal and ethical issues in managing archives and records and providing access service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archivist • Records manager • Librarian and curator involved in managing archival materials or manuscripts • Information officer |

| | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| Data science | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concepts, principles and theories in and data management, analysis and curation • Methodologies and techniques related to data management, data curation and data analysis • Hands-on experience with software tools, languages, data models and environments for data processing and visualization • Systems and policies that facilitate data management and data analysis services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data services librarian • Data scientist • Researcher • Information manager • Analytic specialist |
|--------------|--|---|

* These are examples of the key content covered within each specialist strand. The MSc(LIM) team is constantly reviewing the programme and innovating. Our curriculum remains flexible to incorporate emergent practices and technologies to ensure that graduates are equipped with the most up-to-date knowledge, skills and capabilities.

** There are numerous other possibilities. With technological developments and increased needs for information and related services across the globe new opportunities will be created.