M.S. in Library and Information Science (M.S.(LIS))

1. Scope and Objectives

This is an advanced programme in Library and Information Science with special emphasis on applications of Information technology. On completion of the programme, the students will be able to pursue an academic career or take up responsible positions in various private and public sector organizations in Library and Information field. The objectives of the course are to develop manpower capable of:

- Effectively and efficiently working as information professionals at higher levels in libraries and information centres.
- Design & development of information systems.
- Contributing to the discipline of Library and Information science in terms of research and teaching.

2. Eligibility

The minimum qualification for admission to the M.S. in Library and Information Science programme, is a Bachelor’s degree in any discipline from a recognized Indian or foreign university with a minimum of 15 years of education. The candidates must have secured at least 60% marks in the Bachelors’ degree.

3. Selection Procedure

Selection of candidates will be based on academic records and performance in written tests and interview.

4. Duration

The Duration of the programme is 24 months (2 years). The programme is offered in Bangalore only.

5. Course Structure

The two-year programme consists of a total of twenty credit-courses distributed over four semesters. These include colloquium, seminar and dissertation work. In addition, there are two courses in Elementary Mathematics (each carrying four credits) in the first and second semesters. However, for those who have not studied mathematics at the plus two level, these two courses are credit-courses.

The dissertation work on an approved topic will be spread over the 3rd and 4th semesters. Evaluation of dissertation will be based on a) the contribution by the student (original
contribution or some developmental work), b) report itself c) presentation in an open seminar (defense) and d) depth of knowledge in the area.

Courses of Study

Semester 1:
Foundations of Library and Information Science; Information Organization (Theory and Practice); Cataloging and Metadata (Theory and Practice); Foundations of Computer & Information Technology; Library Management & Library Automation (4 credits each) and Elements of Mathematics-I (credit or non-credit)

Semester 2:
Information Sources, Systems and Services; Elements of Statistics and Research Methodology; Digital Libraries; Data Structures and Programming; Colloquium (4 credits each) and Elements of Mathematics-II (credit or non-credit)

Semester 3:
Information Storage, Retrieval and DBMS; Content Management Systems (CMS); Informetrics and Scientometrics; Web Technologies and Web-based Information Services; Seminar (4 credits each) and Dissertation.

Semester 4:
Networking Technologies and Library Networks; Knowledge Management Systems; Semantic Web; Elective (4 credits each) and Dissertation (8 credits)

Electives: One of the following subjects has to be chosen by a student as an elective.
Business & Corporate Information Systems; Health Information Systems; Agricultural Information Systems, Social Science Information Systems; TQM; Data & Text Mining, etc.

The programme may also include any other advanced level course as recommended by the teachers’ committee and approved by the Academic Council.

6. Method of Evaluation

There will be four semesters in this programme. Evaluation of candidates in each semester will be based on their performance in the examinations / seminars / colloquia as applicable to a particular course in that semester.

Minima for Passing a Course: A student has to secure at least 35% marks in each course (credit or non-credit) to pass that course. Any student, who fails to secure 35% marks in a paper, will be allowed one more chance to appear for an examination (as a back paper examination) in that course. However, a student will be allowed to take at most only two back paper examinations in a semester.

A student is promoted from one semester to the next if i) his/her attendance and conduct during the semester are satisfactory, and ii) his/her score in no course is less than 35%, and iii) the average composite score in all the courses taken together is not less than 45%. A student, who fails to get promoted in semester 1 or semester 2, has to discontinue the programme.
However, a student who fails in semester 3 or semester 4, will be given one more chance to repeat the corresponding semester without any stipend. At the end of the fourth semester, all successful candidates will be awarded the degree of Master of Science (Library & Information Science) [M.S. (Library & Information science)] of the Indian Statistical Institute. The classification of all successful candidates will be done as follows:

- Candidates securing 75% or more marks in the aggregate will be declared to have passed in first class with distinction, provided (s)he passed in all the papers in the first attempt.
- Candidates securing 60% or more, but less than 75% marks in the aggregate taking into consideration all the courses will be declared to have passed in first class.
- Candidates securing 45% or more, but less than 60% marks in the aggregate taking into consideration all the courses will be declared to have passed in second class.

7. Stipend

A stipend of Rs.1200/- per month will be given to each student. However, if a student fails in semester 3 or semester 4, his/her stipend and contingent grant will be completely withdrawn, when (s)he repeats that semester next time. Also, partial stipends may be given to a student, at the discretion of the ‘teachers’ committee, if a student’s conduct/attendance is not satisfactory.