REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
[MSc(LIM)]

These regulations apply to students admitted to the Master of Science in Library and Information Management [MSc(LIM)] curriculum in the academic year 2021-22 and thereafter.

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

Ed331 Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission to the degree of Master of Science in Library and Information Management, a candidate

(a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
(b) shall hold a Bachelor's degree of this University or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
(c) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required; and
(d) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to higher degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b).

Ed332 Qualifying examination

(a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidates' formal academic ability or their ability to follow the curriculum prescribed.
(b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.

Ed333 Period of study

The curriculum shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study, including a summer semester, or two consecutive academic years of part-time study. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or four academic years of part-time study, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

Ed334 Curriculum requirements

To complete the curriculum, candidates shall

(a) satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
(b) follow instruction in the syllabuses prescribed and complete all specified work as required; and
(c) satisfy the examiners in all assessment tasks as may be required.

Ed335 Advanced Standing and credit transfer

(a) Advanced Standing may be granted to candidates who have successfully completed one or more courses in the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Educational Studies curriculum of this University or another qualification of equivalent standard accepted for this purpose.

(b) Candidates may be granted Advanced Standing subject to the following conditions:
  (i) the course(s) is appropriate for the specialist strand applied for; and
  (ii) the application for Advanced Standing is received within five years of successful completion of the relevant courses or graduation from the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Educational Studies or another qualification of equivalent standard accepted for this purpose, whichever is later.

(c) The amount of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty, in accordance with the following principles:
  (i) a candidate may be granted a total of not more than 20% of the total credits normally required under a curriculum for Advanced Standing unless otherwise approved by the Senate; and
  (ii) credits granted for Advanced Standing shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless permitted by the Board of the Faculty but will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

(d) Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions during their candidature. The number of transferred credits may be recorded on the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

(e) Candidates who are awarded Advanced Standing will not be granted any further credit transfer for those studies for which Advanced Standing has been granted.

(f) Application for Advanced Standing shall be made prior to the commencement of the curriculum, and should be accompanied by copies of academic transcripts to support the application.

(g) The combined total number of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing and credit transfer shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required in accordance with this regulations and syllabuses.

Ed336 Exemption

Candidates may be exempted, with or without special conditions attached, from the requirement prescribed in the regulations and syllabuses governing the curriculum with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, except in the case of a capstone experience. Approval for exemption of a capstone experience may be granted only by the Senate with good reasons. Candidates who are exempted must replace the number of exempted credits with courses of the same credit value.

Ed337 Assessment

(a) Candidates shall be assessed by diverse forms of assessment as prescribed by the examiners during the course of their studies.

(b) Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a passing grade for the purpose of upgrading.

(c) Courses in which candidates are given an F grade shall be recorded on the transcript of the candidate, together with the new grade if the candidate is re-assessed or repeats the failed course.

(d) There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

Ed338 Re-assessment

Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner:

(a) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held normally no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or

(b) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or

(c) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or

(d) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

Ed339 Discontinuation

Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of the Faculty, candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they have:
(a) failed to satisfy the examiners upon re-assessment of a course; or
(b) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in Regulation Ed333.

Ed340 Grading systems

Individual courses shall be graded according to one of the following grading systems as determined by the Board of Examiners:
(a) Letter grades, their standards and the grade points for assessment as follows:

Grade	*Standard*	*Grade Point*
A+		4.3
A	Excellent	4.0
A-		3.7
B+		3.3
B	Good	3.0
B-		2.7
C+		2.3
C	Satisfactory	2.0
C-		1.7
D+	Pass	1.3
D		1.0
F	Fail	0

or
(b) 'Distinction', 'Pass' or 'Fail', or
(c) 'Pass' or 'Fail'.

Courses which are graded according to (b) and/or (c) above will not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

Ed341 Award of degree

(a) To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Science in Library and Information Management, candidates shall
  (i) comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
  (ii) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with these regulations and the syllabuses.
(b) On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' degree diploma.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
[MSc(LIM)]

These syllabuses apply to students admitted to the Master of Science in Library and Information Management [MSc(LIM)] curriculum in the academic year 2021-22 and thereafter.

The degree of Master of Science in Library Information Management [MSc(LIM)] is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of a prescribed programme in one of the following specialist strands:

1. Librarianship
2. Information management
3. Knowledge management
4. Data science

Candidates are required to complete a total of 60 credits which comprise:

- 18 credits core courses (6 credits each);
- a 12-credit capstone course;
- 18 credits from a specialist strand; and
- 12 credits elective courses.

CORE COURSES

Candidates are required to complete 18 credits core courses.

MLIM6025 Methods of research and enquiry (6 credits)

This course introduces students to research methods, emphasising critical appraisal and understanding multiple approaches to conducting research. The course also examines the conceptualisation, planning and conduct of small-scale research in the integration of information technology in library and information management settings.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6206 Leading and managing in the workplace (6 credits)

This course uses a case method approach to explore a range of established and emerging management and leadership concepts. Adopting an organisational behaviour approach, participants will be challenged to compare the suitability of their own management styles in a range of different situations. Experiential learning exercises engage the participants in managerial activities such as team building and decision-making.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6314 Library and information science foundation (6 credits)

This course introduces the history, development, potential and contemporary challenges of information sciences in libraries as well as other workplaces, as information management is currently required in almost all organisations and communities. The applications of information and the extended role of library and information professionals are examined with an emphasis on the information professional as an educator and manager. Issues in newly emerging areas such as digital and web-based information sciences with their applications in libraries, education and other organisational environments will also be explored. In particular, techniques and models for analysing information organisations in terms of services and management will be covered. A variety of examples and cases studies will be given with respect to the context of all strands of the MSc(LIM) programme.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

SPECIALIST COURSES

Candidates are required to complete 18 credits from the list of specialist courses for their chosen specialist strand. Not all courses will be offered every year.

A. Librarianship

MLIM6201 Information resources and services (6 credits)
MLIM6202 Literature for young people in a digital age (6 credits)
MLIM6203 Digital collection (6 credits)
MLIM6209 Teacher librarianship (6 credits)
MLIM6210 Preservation of information in a digital age (6 credits)
MLIM6315 Collection management (6 credits)
MLIM6316 Organising information (6 credits)
MLIM6317 Information retrieval theory and practice (6 credits)
MLIM6319 Information behaviour (6 credits)
MLIM6338 New literacies and technology (6 credits)
MLIM6339 Internship in library and information management (6 credits)
MLIM7347 Project management (6 credits)

B. Information management

MLIM6201 Information resources and services (6 credits)
MLIM6204 Records management (6 credits)
MLIM6210 Preservation of information in a digital age (6 credits)
MLIM6316 Organising information (6 credits)
MLIM6317 Information retrieval theory and practice (6 credits)
MLIM6319 Information behaviour (6 credits)
MLIM6338 New literacies and technology (6 credits)
MLIM6339 Internship in library and information management (6 credits)
MLIM7344 Management information systems (6 credits)
MLIM7347 Project management (6 credits)

C. Knowledge management

MLIM6204 Records management (6 credits)
MLIM6212 Knowledge management (6 credits)
MLIM6311 E-learning strategies and management (6 credits)
MLIM6328 Organisational learning (6 credits)
MLIM6339 Internship in library and information management (6 credits)
MLIM7344 Management information systems (6 credits)
MLIM7347 Project management (6 credits)

D. Data science

MLIM7349 Data science and learning analytics (6 credits)
MLIM7350 Data curation (6 credits)
MLIM7351 Information system analysis and development (6 credits)

CAPSTONE PROJECT AND DISSERTATION (A capstone requirement)

Candidates are required to complete MLIM7000 Capstone project and dissertation (12 credits).

MLIM7000 Capstone project and dissertation (12 credits)

The capstone course provides students with an opportunity to apply and extend their knowledge and skills developed through the programme and demonstrate the achievements of the programme learning outcomes. Students need to complete a capstone project in their chosen area of specialism. The capstone project has a practical orientation, and is expected to answer questions of practical importance by: (a) conducting an empirical or other type of study to be presented in a report of 6,000-8,000 words, or (b) developing or implementing a prototype to be presented in a deliverable and a report of 4,000-6,000 words, with the total written output of 6,000-8,000 words. The dissertation has a theoretical orientation, and is expected to answer questions that contribute to new knowledge of the field through thorough and critical analysis. The length of a dissertation is 8,000-10,000 words.

There shall be 36 hours of scheduled sessions in this course where students meet and are guided by the lecturer on different stages of the project. The sessions will be highly interactive and focus on each individual's work. Guided activities, such as oral presentations and peer evaluation, will be organised to facilitate peer learning. The course creates a facilitative environment and learning community which enable students to apply and extend what they have learnt in the programme to both academic research and professional practices. By signing up for the class facilitated by lecturers, students select their preferred lecturer to work with as their project supervisor. Students taking the dissertation can seek supervision from more staff members in addition to the lecturer.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Candidates are required to complete 12 credits elective courses which have not yet been taken previously from the following list. Candidates may, as an alternative, take course(s) from another master degree curriculum offered by the Faculty of Education under the advice and approval of the Programme Director. Not all elective courses will be offered every year.

MLIM6201 Information resources and services (6 credits)

This course introduces the global information environment and examines how libraries and information agencies facilitate access to a range of print and online information sources through identifying and locating information. Students will gain knowledge and expertise in analysing the information needs of customers, formulating research strategies, and identifying relevant resources. Reference materials in a variety of formats and the technical and mediation skills needed to proficiently accomplish this essential information service are discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6202 Literature for young people in a digital age (6 credits)

This course provides an overview of the history of children's literature with a discussion of major authors and contributors and an emphasis on contemporary literature for children and young adults. The impact of new technologies on the publication and use of children's fiction and non-fiction are discussed. Interactive multimedia, online reading and digital libraries for children are evaluated.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6203 Digital collection (6 credits)

This course introduces the goals for digital collection and curation of cultural objects, such as physical or born-digital books, documents, or artworks, within cultural heritage institutions like galleries, libraries, archives, and museums. Various issues of digital collection development like digitisation, object types and digital formats, access strategies and interfaces, metadata and interoperability, public engagement and outreach, ethical issues, economic and social policies, and collections management and online exhibit systems evaluation are examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6204 Records management (6 credits)

This course explores the philosophy of records management and presents the basic techniques and standards for managing records in organisations. The emphasis is on activities and methods relevant to storage, filing, retrieval, retention, preservation, and disposition of physical and electronic records, with legal and ethical considerations. The course also examines techniques and strategies to establish organisation-wide records management programs for building information and knowledge repositories.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6209 Teacher librarianship (6 credits)

This course analyses the curricular and information leadership roles of the teacher librarian. Attention will be given to discussion of the role the teacher librarian with respect to the development of a whole school approach to information literacy. Collaborative Planning and Teaching (CPT) will be evaluated as the bridge between the teacher librarian, information services, inquiry based learning, and the adoption of an information literacy culture. The importance of the principal-teacher librarian relationship as a force for information leadership will be considered in light of the research evidence.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6210 Preservation of information in a digital age (6 credits)

This course examines the physical nature of materials and the causes of deterioration. Techniques for promoting longevity; environmental control; storage and handling practices including data warehousing; and reformatting are explored and valuated. Preservation planning, disaster planning and recovery is

addressed. Students are introduced to the conservation and preservation of archive materials in an online age, digitisation program management and digitisation technologies.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6212 Knowledge management (6 credits)

This course provides an overview of the concepts, theories, and practices of Knowledge Management (KM) and Innovation Management (IM) in organisations and communities. Students will examine basic issues and approaches about knowledge creation, identifying, capturing, storage, sharing and application. Techniques and tools for building a knowledge sharing culture and system are introduced. KM and IM case studies will illustrate the implementation and development of a knowledge sharing culture and innovation management in organisations. A special focus will be placed on the development of KM programs in practical situations.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6311 E-learning strategies and management (6 credits)

In recent years, we have witnessed an explosive growth in the use of e-learning. But how do we actually design e-learning courses that can engage learners? This course will explore important issues relevant to the design and management of e-learning in both school and organisational learning contexts. Participants will be introduced to six specific types of learning: (a) factual knowledge, (b) conceptual knowledge, (c) critical thinking ability, (d) problem solving, (e) procedural learning, and (f) attitude change. This course will investigate the various instructional strategies that can promote the mastery of each aforementioned six types of learning. Strategies to motivate students in e-learning contexts will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6315 Collection management (6 credits)

This course examines the methods used to build and evaluate library collections in a variety of media in all types of libraries with an emphasis on the selection process and the relationship to stakeholders' information needs. Relationships between libraries and the publishing industry are discussed. Collection policy development is explored, linking collection policies to broader information policy issues such as designing digital and virtual libraries, building collaborative teaching resource databases of learning objects, and records management in electronic information environments.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6316 Organising information (6 credits)

This course introduces the theory, principles, standards and applications of information organisation. Approaches to describing and representing information in textual and non-textual formats are covered as well as the evolution of classification systems, cataloguing standards, metadata schemes, controlled vocabularies, and semantic representation. The focus is placed on how to represent and organise information using appropriate standards and techniques for effective information retrieval and content management.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6317 Information retrieval theory and practice (6 credits)

This course examines the information retrieval process from a theoretical and practical framework focusing on conceptual issues. The effective provision of access to information will be covered in the context of database structure and interface design, language issues, database selection, search strategies, evaluation of search results, information seeking behaviour and needs. The role of the information professional in information mediation is explored. Strategic searching, competitive intelligence and selected online systems are also explored.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6319 Information behaviour (6 credits)

This course introduces the essential concepts, theories, and models of information behaviour, as well as the critical reflections on the usage of digital technologies in facilitating information behaviour in both social and organisational settings. Research methods and network analysis for studying information behaviour will also be introduced in this course. In doing so, this course aims to orient students with a comprehensive set of conceptual and theoretical knowledge associated with information behaviour.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6328 Organisational learning (6 credits)

This course explores the concept and processes of organisational learning and the learning organisation. It examines the strategies and tools employed to create and manage a learning and innovative organisation. Topics include managing chaos and complexity; organisation culture and change, scenario planning, storytelling, professional development, training and learning (especially e-learning), performance and evaluation of learning, and others.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6338 New literacies and technology (6 credits)

Digital literacies comprise of information literacy, information and communication technology (ICT) literacy and media literacy. They are some of the core 21st century workplace skills. Students as well as knowledge workers need to equip with such skills so that they will be able to define and solve a problem or challenge at hand, and analyze suitable electronic and print information resources, manage resources efficiently and use the sources ethically. The course will also introduce the effective applications of social media for enhancing communication among different groups of an organisation.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM6339 Internship in library and information management (6 credits)

The internship of field experience provides an important learning experience for the student. It has a significant hands-on learning component. Through discussion with key personnel in the organisation and working under workplace supervisors, the student gains hands-on experience in the library and

information management environment.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM7344 Management information systems (6 credits)

This course examines key business processes in organisations and how information systems support the execution and management of these processes, covering both managerial and technical aspects of contemporary information systems. Topics include information technologies in business, types of management information systems, information systems development process and design, social and managerial issues of information systems and emerging topics such as information systems integration and outsourcing.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM7347 Project management (6 credits)

This course explores the project life cycle and Project Management (PM) techniques for managing and planning successful projects in organisations. Conceptual foundations from the PMBOK and their application are stressed, and applied using PM software. This course will run in project based, experiential learning mode (PBL) with participants completing a project ideally for an external client.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM7349 Data science and learning analytics (6 credits)

This course provides a broad overview of the key concepts, skills, technologies and applications in data science, with an emphasis on learning analytics and educational data mining. Learners will explore principles, methods and application cases in data pre-processing and storage, inferential and predictive analytics, supervised and unsupervised machine learning, association rule mining, text analytics, network analysis, data visualisation, as well as data ethics and privacy. Example cases will be discussed to illustrate how learning analytics needs to be connected to the targeted learning outcomes and pedagogical design considerations. Students will conduct labs, tutorials and group project to gain hands-on experience on using industry-standard data mining and/or learning analytics packages to solve practical data-driven problems. It is strongly recommended that students have basic knowledge of statistics (equivalent to undergraduate level of introductory course on statistics) and are comfortable of using new IT tools.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM7350 Data curation (6 credits)

This course discusses all aspects of data curation principles and best practices. The goal is to prepare students in data planning, management, documentation, preservation and sharing in all organisations with complex digital environments. This course is complementary to courses in data analysis and database management. Topics covered in this course include: overview of data management, data management life cycles; data management plans in the context of sponsored projects, risk and sustainability**;** standards and tools for data storage, access and security; metadata standards and design in context; data sharing and reuse; legal and ethical considerations.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

MLIM7351 Information system analysis and development (6 credits)

The student should after the course have a basic knowledge of models, methods and tools to be able to independently apply the principles for selection and evaluation of systems development methods.

Assessment: 100% coursework.