Established in 1971, the School of Information Sciences provides a graduate program for the preparation of librarians and other information professionals for work in all types of information environments. The program of study offers the Master of Science degree. In addition, the School of Information Sciences provides elective courses at the undergraduate level.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The School of Information Sciences offers undergraduate courses that reflect the overall mission of the school: to educate people to live, work and flourish in an information society through excellence in teaching, research, and public service in library and information science.

The undergraduate courses support a heightened awareness of today’s information-rich environment. Increasingly, college graduates must understand the nature of information: sources, value, creation, organizing principles, transfer, and uses in society. Those who thrive in the information society must know how to identify and respond to their information needs. First as students, and then as professionals and citizens, graduates need to apply techniques and technologies in the search, retrieval, and evaluation of relevant information to meet their information needs. They must prepare to use a rapidly increasing array of information systems and technologies to seek and to manage information resources. These abilities, which add value to any field of study, constitute information survival skills in the twenty-first century. Graduates need to know when they can help themselves and when they should seek assistance from various information professionals.

The undergraduate courses are planned for the following groups of people:

1. Students who wish to develop a better understanding of the role of information in society.
2. Students whose academic major stresses understanding and use of information in society.
3. Students whose academic major and/or minor requires significant use of research libraries.
4. Students who are prospective candidates for the graduate program in library and information science.

For information about undergraduate courses, contact the School of Information Sciences.

GRADUATE PROGRAM

The School of Information Sciences offers a graduate professional degree program accredited by the American Library Association. Information concerning the graduate program is given in the Graduate Catalog.

COMPUTER FACILITIES

The School of Information Sciences provides a teaching demonstration computer laboratory at Temple Court. The laboratory includes a large-screen display system and more than 20 networked computers. The laboratory is designed to reflect the current computing environment. The laboratory serves as a classroom for undergraduate and graduate courses offering hands-on instruction in information technology. Equipment is available for individual use when the laboratory is not reserved for class instruction. The computers are connected to the SIS Local Area Network (LAN). In addition, the computers are connected to the campus ethernet network from which they access all the increasingly important communications and information resources of the Internet. Networked laser printing is included in the laboratory.

The advanced laboratory is designed to serve the research and curriculum needs of the school. Equipment includes high-end Macintosh Quadra, and IBM PC computers. The advanced laboratory provides a web server, high-level database and information retrieval software, and multimedia authoring and display tools.