

Library and Information Technology

Department Overview

The Department of Library and Information Technology offers a two-year [Library & Information Technology Diploma](#) that students can complete entirely online, on-campus or by some mixture of the two. The diploma provides graduates access to a wide variety of jobs - from hands-on, people interaction to behind-the-scenes technical services.

The Library & Information Technology Diploma is recognized across Canada and has been developed in accordance with the Canadian Library Association Guidelines for the Education of Library Technicians in Canada. Graduates are highly skilled in today's essential computer applications, specialized library management systems as well as search strategies for library databases and open resources on the internet. Students also learn how to catalogue, maintain, and retrieve print, digital and non-print resources as well as specialized media including film, maps and photographs.

Self-Study

Library and Information Technology launched its program review in academic year 2018/19 with a Self-Study. The Self-Study team included:

- Diane Thompson (Department Chair)
- Serenia Tam (Instructional Assistant)
- Dale West (Instructor)
- Guy Robertson (Instructor)
- Linda Morrison (Instructor)
- June Parnell (Program Review Facilitator, TCDC)
- Jim Bowers (Division Chair, Community Programs)
- Jacqueline Bradshaw (Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Community Programs)
- Institutional Research analysts

Data sources for the Self-Study included:

- Institutional Research-compiled student administrative data (*e.g.*, headcounts, retention, satisfaction)
- Student survey
- Employer survey

The Self-Study was completed in January 2020.

External Review

Library and Information Technology's External Review took place on February 25, 2020. The External Review Team consisted of:

- Ben Wood, PhD, Asian Studies, Langara (External Review Chair)
- Chasity Berast, MLIS, Library and Information Technology, Saskatchewan Polytechnic
- April Cox, Surrey Public Library

Action Plan Goals

In response to the Self-Study and External Review, Library and Information Technology created an Action Plan with these goals:

- Goal 1: Develop/add new special topics course offerings and continue to review course content in light of changing developments in the library and information technology field.
- Goal 2: Discuss and possibly broaden English/Communication curriculum requirements in consultation with the English department.
- Goal 3: Review scheduling of courses to optimize progression through the program and student success.
- Goal 4: Create new pathways for student success and flexibility.
- Goal 5: Continue to develop new experiential and applied learning opportunities.
- Goal 6: Explore learning outcomes to identify alignment with Academic Plan and make recommendations for Indigenous education and internationalization, in consultation with the Teaching and Curriculum Development Centre.

Examples of Post-Review Successes

2021/22

A preliminary curriculum map that includes all courses and major program outcomes.

2022/23

The department has removed LIBR 2315 as a core course and added a new Special Topics course: Indigenous Communities and Libraries and has offered it twice in response to student demand. The keyboarding requirement has been removed from the program.

An assignment was created in LIBR 2410 (Children's Services) where students work with the Langara day care to provide storytimes for the children. An authentic experience directly related to future work.

2023/24

The department applied for an extra section to deal with overwhelming demand for our Children's course, and they were granted the section, which went a long way towards ensuring students got the courses they needed.