Recommendations

B.S. Information Science

To learn more about how to make the most of educational experiences in your area within and beyond the classroom contact:

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PARTICIPATE

Community Service

**Related course**
SLIS 202 (Information Literacy and Technology), SLIS 301 (Information Storage and Retrieval), SLIS 315 (Information Policy), SLIS 402 (Introduction to Management Within Information Environments), SLIS 420 (Communication and Information Transfer), and SLIS 430 (User-Centered Information Architecture)

**Sites/experiences**
Cocky’s Reading Express, IT-Intensive Units/Organizations, Information Institutions of all kinds

**Other**
Providing non-profit organizations with help in organizing and filing their information collection systems.

**Why this is important**
Community Service provides students an opportunity to serve others. Students give of their talents to others and at the same time gain valuable experience and knowledge about their field of study as well as how to relate and work with various people.

Global Learning

**Related course**
SLIS 201 (Introduction to Information Science), SLIS 202 (Introduction to Information Literacy and Technology), SLIS 310 (Research Methods in Information Science), SLIS 315 (Information Policy), SLIS 420 (Communication and Information Transfer), and SLIS 440 (Competitive Intelligence)

**Timing for “study abroad”**
Study Abroad should take place in Spring or Summer of the Sophomore or Junior Years. Planning for Study Abroad should take place at least 9 months before the semester chosen.

**Destinations**
Any destination would be encouraged, but due to connections already existing in Africa this is a destination the Information Science degree program will be cultivating for BSIS students which promises to provide valuable mentors as well as fields of study for its students.

**Why this is important**
Travel broadens and extends knowledge and perspectives. This is an important component in providing Information Science students with an universal as well as national perspective. Although we realize all of our students will not have the means or time to travel, we will encourage it when possible because of it’s life changing perspectives.

Peer Leadership

**Student Organization(s)**
The ISSO (Information Science Student Organization) is a new organization created by Information Science students dedicated to providing students with knowledge about the field, access to professionals in the field, and service and other leadership opportunities connected to Information Science.

**Opportunities**
SLIS has created a relationship with ARMA International which is the organization for records/information management professionals. This organization has a Columbia affiliate where BSIS students can become members. SLIS has and will continue to encourage students to get involved with this organization. It is a great place to network and learn about the information management profession.
**Other recommendations**

Information Science students are encouraged to take leadership roles on campus and in community organizations outside the major. These roles provide experience in leading and interacting with a diverse set of others. They also help students learn and take on professional roles and provide excellent opportunities for networking.

**Why this is important**

Leadership opportunities provide Information Science students experience with working with others and setting and accomplishing worthwhile goals, experiences that Information Science students can apply toward their professional careers.

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**Internships**

**Related Courses**

SLIS 496 (Internship in Information Science) can be taken twice by Upper Level SLIS students for a total of 6 credit hours.

**Recommended sites/work experiences**

The South Carolina State Library has internship opportunities for Information Science Students. Other internship opportunities can be found on campus with the USC Cancer Research Center and the USC Office of Information Technology.

**Professional Organizations**

Information Science Students have opportunities to intern with ARMA International the Information Management Professionals Organization.

**Why this is important**

Internships provide students with knowledge and networking opportunities outside of the classroom that will enhance their education and their career opportunities.

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**Research**

**Related courses**

SLIS 310 (Research Methods in Information Science)

**Sample research projects or topics**

Information Science students will be encouraged to apply for such research scholarships as the Magellan Scholarship. These scholarships will be directed by Information Science faculty and will focus on diverse topics of research and scholarship.

**Why this is important**

Research is at the heart of expanding academic frontiers. Through engagement in research, Information Science students can make contributions to the academic life of the University and beyond which both enhances their knowledge and the knowledge of their fellow students.

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**INTEGRATE**

**How to integrate**

Information Science students are encouraged to do an internship which provides key experiences in integrative learning and prepares them for the professional world. It is important for Information Science students to make the connections between what they have learned in the classroom and through other experiences and how to use their knowledge and experiences to solve real life problems in their career field.
**Initial career opportunities**
Network Administrator, On-Line/Web Researcher, Data Mining Specialist, Systems Analyst, Records Manager, and Web Content Manager

**Related graduate programs**
Master of Library and Information Science, Master of Computer Science, Master of Health Information Technology

**Future career opportunities**
Knowledge Managers, Usability Specialist, Database Developers, Information Architects, and Competitive Intelligence Analysts.

**Additional career comments**
Careers in the field are varied. The degree lends itself to catering to each student’s unique interests while providing a flexible and portable set of core Information Science skills. These skills focus on the user and how to bridge technology to provide relevant content tailored to each user’s needs and desires. Possible technical skills an Information Scientist may possess include managing web applications, creating wireless web connectivity and security, and making critical assessments and recommendations on existing and new technologies based on organizational or individual needs.

Career options are available in various organizational and business settings including large and small, public and private, and entrepreneurial and non-profit. This variety of career options gives the Information Scientist the opportunity to create their own specialized career track, pursuing personal interests and skills as well as contributing their leadership and their core Information Science skills as a team member who collaboratively solves the complex challenges and problems of their chosen career field.

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The listed experiences are a sample of options for your major. See the USC Connect experiences database to search for more opportunities.

[www.sc.edu/uscconnect/participate](http://www.sc.edu/uscconnect/participate)