

## Master of Information

The iSchool at the University of Toronto is a research-led faculty, educating the next generation of academic and professional leaders in information, who join us in transforming society through collaboration, innovation, and knowledge creation.

The goals of the Master of Information are:

- To graduate qualified professionals with a thorough knowledge of theory and practice in the study of information in all its complexity.
- To educate the next generation of academic and professional leaders in information in order to anticipate and respond to the needs of a variety of information users and uses.
- To address changes in society, in the marketplace, and in technology by producing graduates who can deliver intellectual and professional leadership in key areas essential to our globalizing knowledge societies.

Pervasive technological and societal changes require that information professionals develop intellectual agility, critical and analytical capacity, strong interpersonal and organizational skills, a familiarity with information and communication technologies, and a commitment to the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct. The MI program is designed to provide such opportunities, and graduate individuals who can deliver intellectual and professional leadership in areas essential to national and global socio-economic and cultural progress. This has been accomplished in recent decades through innovative partnerships and new degree programs. The Faculty offers professional education in seven approved concentrations:

- Archives and record management
- Critical information policy studies
- Culture and technology
- Information systems and design
- Knowledge management and information management
- Knowledge media design
- Library and information science

In addition, we have established innovative partnerships with several University of Toronto programs, including a combined MI/JD program with the Faculty of Law; a joint undergraduate degree with the University of Toronto Mississauga in Interactive Digital Media (IDM); and several collaborative programs with:

- Addiction studies
- Aging, palliative and supportive care
- Book history and print culture
- Environmental studies
- Knowledge media design
- Sexual diversity studies
- Women and gender studies
- Women's health

## MI – Student Learning Outcomes

There are six main student learning outcomes (SLO) for the Master of Information degree program:

1. Students understand and are conversant with fundamental concepts, theories, practices, technologies, and the diverse horizons of information disciplines, and can respond to changing information practices and needs of society.
2. Students develop knowledge and values appropriate to their future exercise of economic, cultural, political and/or social leadership, and thereby provide leadership in defining the social responsibility of information professionals to provide information services for all, regardless of age, educational level, or social, cultural, or ethnic background.
3. Students develop the ability to contribute through research and publication, to the continuous expansion and critical assessment of the body of knowledge underlying the information and archives sciences.
4. Students develop an understanding of the development of theory concerning information, where it is found, and how it is used.
5. Students develop an understanding of complex systems, and the application of new technological developments to the curation, preservation and communication of information, along with the identification of the impact of such developments on society.
6. Students continue in life-long intellectual growth beyond graduation.

These student learning outcomes fit the University of Toronto Master's-level degree level expectations (DLEs) in the following ways:

### *1. Depth and Breadth of knowledge*

A systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and insights, at the forefront of the study of information (as a discipline and an area of professional practice).

### *2. Research and scholarship*

A conceptual understanding and methodological competence that manifests in:

- i) A working comprehension of how established techniques of research and inquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the study of information;
- ii) The ability to critically evaluate current research and scholarship in the study of information and in related areas of professional competence.

iii) The ability to build on established principles and techniques from the study of information to treat complex issues and judgment; along with,  
The ability to:

- i) Develop and support a sustained argument in written form,
- ii) Show originality in the application of knowledge
- iii) Adhere to professional standards and practices.

### *3. Level of application of practical knowledge*

Competence in applying an existing body of knowledge in the critical analysis of a new question or of a specific problem or issue in a specific setting, and according to professional standards and values. Employability of MI graduates is incumbent upon their being conversant with fundamental concepts, theories and practices in the diverse horizons of information disciplines, and their ability to respond to changing information practices and needs of society.

### *4. Professional capacity/autonomy*

- a. The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment in the information professions requiring: i) The exercise of initiative and of personal responsibility and accountability; and ii) Decision-making in complex situations; and iii) A social justice sensibility.
- b. The intellectual independence required for continuing professional development;
- c. The ethical behavior consistent with academic integrity and the use of appropriate guidelines and procedures for responsible conduct of research; and relevant to established professional standards.
- d. The ability to appreciate the broader implications of applying knowledge to particular contexts.

### *5. Level of communication skills*

The ability to assess audiences and needs, exercise professional judgment, and communicate ideas, issues and conclusions clearly.

### *6. Awareness of limits of knowledge*

Cognizance of the complexity of knowledge beyond the study of information, and of the potential contributions of other interpretations, methods, and disciplines. Students continue in life-long intellectual growth beyond graduation.