# HISTORY AND LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE (HILS)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Information / Arts and Humanities

## Abstract

The History and Library Science (HiLS) dual-degree program is the result of a cooperative agreement between the College of Information, (Maryland's INFO College) and the Department of History. HiLS students graduate with both a Master of Arts in History and a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) degree.

The HiLS program is ideally suited for students interested in gaining a multidisciplinary perspective to research as well as practical hands-on skills. Because of the proximity of the College Park campus to a variety of immensely rich research collections, students are able to gain first-hand experiences through internships that reinforce their classroom instruction. As a result of the dual-degree studies, students in the HiLS program gain skills in historical methodology and cutting-edge library and information science practices, preparing them for careers in libraries, archives, museums, and other information centers in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

Students admitted to the HiLS Program typically complete the program of study in three (3) years, however they have up to five (5) years to complete the degrees. The HiLS program requires fifty-four (54) credit hours of study, with a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours in both the Department of History and the College of Information. Students select how to use the remaining six (6) credits.

The MA and the MLIS are awarded simultaneously, and a student who fails to complete the special requirements for the coordinated degree programs may not receive either degree. When a student admitted to the HILS program subsequently wishes to receive only one degree, he/she must transfer from HILS either to the graduate program in History or to the College of Information and fulfill the normal requirements for the separate master's degree. The dual-degree History and Library Science offers the option of a degree-by-thesis (History and INFO College) as well as a degree-by-examination (History).

## Financial Assistance

The College of Information and the Department of History make available a limited number of teaching and/or graduate assistantships for master's students, including students in the HILS dual-degree program. These assistantships are awarded on the basis of merit, staffing needs, and budget. Neither academic unit extends guaranteed awards.

For more information on financial aid options from the College of Information, please visit the Financial Aid section of the College of Information website. (http://ischool.umd.edu/)

## Contact

**College of Information**
**Student Services Office**
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University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-4345
**Telephone:** 301.405.4915
**Email:** mlisprogram@umd.edu (ischooladvisors@umd.edu)

**Dr. Saverio Giovacchini**
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**Telephone:** 301.405.4267
**Fax:** 301.314.9399
**Email:** saverio@umd.edu

**Website:** http://www.history.umd.edu (http://www.history.umd.edu/)

**Courses:** HIST (https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/hist/) LBSC (https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/lbsc/) INFM (https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/infm/)

**Relationships:** Human-Computer Interaction (HCIM) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/human-computer-interaction-hcim/) Information Management (INFM) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/information-management-infm/) Information Management (online) (MIMO) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/information-management-online-mimo/) Information Studies (INFS) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/information-studies-infs/) Library and Information Science (LBSC) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/library-information-science-lbsc/) Library and Information Science (online) (LBSO) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/library-information-science-online-lbso/)

# ADMISSIONS

## General Requirements

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/))

## Program-Specific Requirements

- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- CV/Resume
- Supplementary Essay (https://gradschool.umd.edu/sites/default/files/2023-06/umdsupplementaryapplicationhils2023.pdf)
- Writing Sample
- Portfolio PDF Upload (optional)
- Description of Research/Work Experience

Students must apply for admission to both the Department of History and the College of Information under the rubric HILS (History and Library Science). There is one, consolidated application, but two, independent admission decisions. An offer of admission from both, the Department of History and the College of Information is required in order to be admitted to the dual-degree program.

# Application Deadlines

| Type of Applicant | Fall Deadline |
|---|---|
| **Domestic Applicants** | |
| US Citizens and Permanent Residents | January 8, 2027 |
| **International Applicants** | |
| F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A, E, G, H, I and L visas and immigrants | January 8, 2027 |

### RESOURCES AND LINKS:

**Program Website:** http://www.history.umd.edu or http://www.ischool.umd.edu
**Application Process:** https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/)

# REQUIREMENTS

- History and Library & Information Science, Master of Arts and Master of Library and Information Science (dual degree) (M.A. and M.L.I.S.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/history-library-information-science-hils/history-library-information-science-dual-degree-ma-mlis/)

# FACILITIES AND SPECIAL RESOURCES

The College of Information operates five research centers: the Human-Computer Interaction Lab (HCIL), the Information Policy and Access Center (iPAC), and the Center for Advanced Study of Communities and Information (CASCI), the Cloud Computing Center (CCC), and the Digital Curation Innovation Center. INFO faculty and doctoral students also participate in or have affiliations with the University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies (UMIACS), the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH), and the Computational Linguistics and Information Processing Laboratory (CLIP), as well as the Departments of Computer Science, English, and Sociology, the Robert H. Smith School of Business, and the College of Education. The College also operates a student computer lab for currently enrolled students. Faculty and students participate in cooperative research with staff of the University Libraries, the Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory, and other campus units. Students have access through cooperative arrangements and programs to the resources of Archives II, the National Agricultural Library, the Library of Congress, and other prominent research facilities.