



**MIDWINTER
MEETING & EXHIBITS**
January 24-28, 2020

Competencies and Education for a Career in Cataloging Interest Group
Friday, January 24, 2020 at 1pm

**Graduate Education in Cataloging, Metadata,
and Information Organization:**

A Status Update

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A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY

For the last two decades our field has been in constant flux

- **Conceptual models replaced**
 - IFLA's *Library Reference Model* (LRM) replaces FRBR, just as some were just starting to get comfortable with it
- **RDA evolving (imploding?)**
 - The RDA 3R Project is replacing guidelines with an endless set of possibilities
- **BIBFRAME development**
 - MARC had to go 20+ years ago. So, why is it still here?
- **Semantic Web and Linked Data**
 - It's the FUTURE!

The future of bibliographic control is less clear now than it has been in decades.

IS LIS EDUCATION ADAPTING?

- Are we preparing students for careers in information organization?
- Questions:
 - What courses are being offered?
 - What's actually being taught?
 - How have things changed in the last 7-8 years?
- To find out, we conducted a literature review and studied the Information Organization courses at 61 graduate Library and Information Science (LIS) schools.

WHAT IS THE LIS LITERATURE SAYING?

- Changing Professional Requirements
- Changes in LIS Instruction
- Theoretical versus Practical Education

COMPARISON OF SEVEN STUDIES

	Joudrey & Mulvaney 2020	Joudrey & McGinnis 2012	Joudrey 2005	Joudrey 2000	Spillane 1998	Vellucci 1997	CCQ 1987
# of schools	61	58	56	55	56	52	55
# of courses offered	268	298	267	245	221	156	209
Average # of courses offered	4.4	5.1	4.8	4.5	3.9	3	3.8
# of courses taught	224	238	225	≈196 - 206 [†]	Unk.	Unk.	Unk.
Average # of courses taught per school	3.7	4.1	4	≈3.6 - 3.7 [†]	Unk.	Unk.	Unk.

[†] These numbers are estimates because data on courses actually taught were not collected in the earliest studies.

16 TYPES OF IO COURSES

- Cataloging
- Advanced Cataloging
- Classification
- Descriptive Cataloging
- Non-book Cataloging
- School Libraries Cataloging
- Subject Cataloging
- Information Organization
- Indexing
- Knowledge Organization Systems
- Metadata
- Semantic Web/Linked Data
- Special Topics
- Technical Services
- Thesaurus Construction
- Other

KEY FINDINGS

- The total number of IO courses has *decreased* since 2012
 - 4.4 courses offered/school (2020) vs. 5.1 (2012)
 - 3.67 courses taught/school (2020) vs. 4.1 (2012)
- 84% of courses offered were taught (2020) vs. 80% (2012)
 - 57% of LIS schools taught 100% of the IO courses they offer (up from 40%)

Required vs. Electives courses

- **Courses offered in 2020: 22% were required 78% were elective**
 - Courses offered in 2012: 20% were required 80% were elective
- **Courses taught in 2020: 26% were required 74% were elective**
 - Courses taught in 2012: 25% were required 75% were elective

KEY FINDINGS (II)

- 50% of schools offer 3-4 IO courses (40 schools)
- 28% offer 1-2 courses (17 schools)
- 22% offer 5 or more IO course (14 schools)
- 90% of schools require one course (55 schools)
 - 8% have NO requirement (5 schools)
 - 2% have 2 requirements (1 school)
- **Requirements**
 - 77% Information Organization (or Org combined with Retrieval)
 - 10% Cataloging
 - 8% None
 - 4% Choice of two courses (Cat/Org/School Cat)
 - 2% Org and Cat

KEY FINDINGS (III)

Course type	# of IO Course Taught (n=224)	# of IO Course Offered (n=268)	Difference	% of the Course Type Taught
Org	54 courses	54 courses	0 courses	100%
Meta	50	50	0	100%
SW/LD	8	8	0	100%
School	4	4	0	100%
Cat	40	42	2	95%
Desc	11	12	1	92%
KOS	6	7	1	86%
AdvCat	9	12	3	75%
Thes	3	4	1	75%
Subj	8	12	4	67%
Other	4	6	2	67%
Class	3	5	2	60%
Index	15	26	11	58%
NonBook	2	4	2	50%
TechSvc	6	13	7	46%
Topics	1	9	8	11%

Course Type (offered)	Joudrey & Mulvaney 2020	Joudrey & McGinnis 2012	Joudrey 2005	Joudrey 2000*
Org	54	44	41	30
Meta	50	42	22	7
Cat	42	50	44	47
Index	26	42	47	48
TechSvc	13	15	18	17
Subj	12	16	16	16
Desc	12	10	11	8
Class	5	10	10	11
Advanced Cat	25	52	46	47
AdvCat	12	26	28	31
Topics	9	15	12	7
NonBook	4	11	6	9
Miscellaneous	29	17	12	14
Thes	4	10	8	8
KOS	7			
SW/LD	8			
School	4	3	2	1
Internships	0	0	0	0
Music Cataloging	1	0	0	1
Art Documentation	1	0	0	0
Rare Books Cat	3	1	0	0
Other	1	3	1	0
Cat Technology	0	0	1	4
TOTALS	268	298	267	245
# of schools	61	58	56	55
Average # of IO courses offered	4.4	5.1	4.8	4.5

CHANGES FROM LAST STUDY

Course Type (Taught)	Joudrey & Mulvaney 2020	Joudrey & McGinnis 2012	Change # and %
Org	54 courses	44 courses	+10 (23%)
Metadata	50	41	+9 (22%)
Cat	40	50	-10 (-20%)
Index	15	28	-13 (-46%)
Desc	11	8	+3 (33%)
Adv Cat	9	22	-13 (-59%)
Subject	8	7	+1 (14%)
SW/LD	8	0	+8
KOS	6	0	+6
Tech Svcs	6	11	-5 (-45%)
School	4	3	+1 (33%)
Other	4	1	+3 (300%)
Class	3	5	-2 (-40%)
Thesaurus Const.	3	5	-2 (-40%)
Non-book	2	5	-3 (-60%)
Topics	1	8	-7 (-88%)
TOTALS	224	238	-14 (-6%)
# of schools	61	58	+3
Average # of IO courses taught	3.7	4.1	-0.4

THE DECLINE OF CATALOGING COURSES

Courses offered	Joudrey & Mulvaney 2020	Joudrey & McGinnis 2012	Joudrey 2005	Joudrey 2000	Spillane 1998	Vellucci 1997	CCQ 1987
Cat	42	50	44	47	56	48	50
Subj	12	16	16	16	10	13	16
Desc	12	10	11	8	5	5	11
Class	5	10	10	11	10	13	9
AdvCat	12	26	28	31	52*	38*	44*
Topics	9	15	12	7			
Non-book	4	11	6	9	7*	5*	15
Miscellaneous	10	6*	4	6	5	14	14
School	4	3	2	1			0
Music cataloging	1	0	0	1			0
Other	5	3**	2	4	5	14	14
TOTALS	106	144	131	135	145	136	159
No. of schools	61	58	56	55	56	52	55
Average # of Cataloging-only courses offered	1.73	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.9†