

BSIS Program Review

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Notable Courses

The BSIS program introduced me to several LIS courses that were very influential in shaping my understanding of information from its technical, ethical, and psychological perspectives. LIS4414 Information Policy & Ethics was personally my favorite class because it helped me think critically about the intersection of government, society, and information. Discussions focused on legislation, policy development, and ethical challenges that information professionals face. LIS3783 Information Architecture also provided a more technical and psychological understanding of how information is organized and presented to users. The course helped me understand user-centered design principles, teaching me how different design structures consider how people interpret, navigate, and interact with information systems. LIS4204 Information Behavior also complemented these courses by exploring the cognitive and behavioral aspects of how people process information. Through that course, I gained more insight into how individuals and groups seek, evaluate, and use information. This course also helped with my technical skills in designing intuitive UI/UX and programming projects that are user-centered from these learned perspectives.

Additionally, I really enjoyed LIS3261 Introduction to Information Science because it helped me contextualize advanced topics in this discipline through history, career paths, and evolution of disciplines in this field. As someone who came from different majors before this one, it honestly provided me with significant context and made me more confident about being in this program. This course helped with understanding information technology, development of information systems, roles and careers in IS, and seeing how information science as a whole plays a huge role in society. Overall, these courses provided me with a strong balance of theory,

history, technical skills, and critical thinking which is essential to my future career aspirations and I'm more excited to explore IS in the future.

Notable Assignments

The assignments through those courses genuinely challenged me and left a lasting impact on my learning and professional preparation. In LIS4414 Policy & Ethics, the legislative tracing and ethical case study assignments were very formative. It piqued my interest in technology and information law because my papers often focused on understanding the relationship between information, policies, and technology. I was also able to analyze real-world dilemmas, fostering critical thinking and understanding consequences of decisions regarding data management, privacy, and information access. In LIS3783 Information architecture, creating low and high fidelity wireframes was one of my favorite assignments because it allowed me to directly apply technical and theoretical knowledge in a creative context. Designing wireframes had me considering user experience and technical feasibility.

Similarly, the review essays in LIS4204 Information Behavior actually provided a guideline for those wireframe assignments. Review essays focused on summarizing what I've learned through the textbooks and applying more analysis on it as well to showcase my understanding. Those assignments were directly useful in my UI/UX internship where I applied information architecture and behaviors to create interfaces that are intuitive and accessible. Overall, these assignments were very important to me because it helped show that I can apply what I was learning from the content into actual real-world usable projects. It helped develop career-relevant skills, preparing me for roles in information management, design, and technology.

Conclusion

Overall, the BSIS program has prepared me by providing a strong foundation in theoretical and practical aspects of information science. The courses in policy, ethics, information behavior, architecture and technology have equipped me with critical thinking skills, technical knowledge, and understanding information flows in society and organizations. I feel that I am equipped for multiple career paths such as IT, software development, UI/UX Design & Research, and business operations. For IT and software development, my problem-solving abilities and understanding of systems, data management, networks, and full-stack programming. For UI/UX design, courses in information architecture and behavior have been relevant to my projects and allow me to create user-centered designs. For business operations, I feel that these courses have helped me become multi-faceted with my research skills, attention to detail, and critical thinking. At some point, the Information Policy & Ethics even had me considering going into Technology Law in the future. The BSIS program has enhanced my technical skills but also developed all my abilities in approaching information strategically and ethically, preparing me to succeed across multiple career paths in the modern information-driven world.