MSc in Information Studies

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Programme Director
WKWSCI

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What is Information Studies (IS)?

• Explore the uses, contexts and users of information

• Professional qualification for information professionals working in libraries

• Provides advanced learning for current and future information professionals

• Multidisciplinary programme combining theory and problem-based learning to address the growing need of organizations for skilled information professionals (e.g. Librarians, Information Analysts, Data Scientists, Business Analysts, etc.)
Programme Objective

To train information leaders to have the analytical capability, ethical awareness, and leadership skills to contextualise information so they can:

• Recognise information gaps and identify organisational information needs
• Model, organise, and analyse information
• Design systems to enable users to use information effectively
• Use information for organisational decision making and communication
Two Major Areas of Focus

Library Science

• Focuses on providing essential knowledge applicable in any type of library or information management job.

Information Analytics

• Focuses on using methods, tools and frameworks to manage, analyse and derive insight from traditional as well as digital information assets such as social, mobile, cloud and big data.
Why Choose IS with WKW?

• Drawing from multiple disciplines:
  o Library and Information Science
  o Business and Social Science
  o Computer Science
  o Applied Mathematics

• Our faculty are recognised experts in their respective fields (e.g. library science, information retrieval, information management & systems, digital libraries, data & text mining)

• The program cultivates strong research skills and areas of expertise

• Empowered to adapt to a growing and changing field, you will learn to use information as a tool for transformation in your personal and professional lives.
## Programme Duration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
<th>No. of courses per semester</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>1 years</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>Up to 5 courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>Up to 3 courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Science Electives</td>
<td>Information Analytics Electives</td>
<td>General Electives</td>
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<tr>
<td>H6721 Collection Development and Management</td>
<td>H6729 Organisational Records Management</td>
<td>H6702 Research Methods in Human Information Behaviour</td>
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<tr>
<td>H6722 Cataloguing and Classification</td>
<td>H6730 Digital Libraries</td>
<td>H6713 Information Representation and Retrieval</td>
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<tr>
<td>H6723 Business &amp; Management Information Sources &amp; Services</td>
<td>H6750 Social Media Analytics</td>
<td>H6714 Information Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>H6724 Children &amp; Young Adults Information Sources &amp; Services</td>
<td>H6751 Text &amp; Web Mining</td>
<td>H6715 Information Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>H6734 Reference and Information Discovery</td>
<td>H6752 Data Extraction Techniques</td>
<td>H6717 Information Professions: Heritage, Values and Ethics</td>
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<td>H6735 Theories and Practices of Heritage Work</td>
<td>H6753 User Metrics and Analytics</td>
<td>H6718 Management of Information Technologies in Organisations</td>
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<td>CI6221 Information Visualisation</td>
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<td>K6312 Information Mining and Analysis</td>
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Programme Structure – Option of Study

‘Coursework Only’ Option
- 9 Courses
- Critical Inquiry

‘Coursework & Dissertation’ Option
- 8 Courses
- Dissertation (equivalent to 2 courses)

- Students may take up to 3 courses from other Master’s programmes subject to approval
Programme Structure – Suggested Study Pathways

Full-time Students

Semester 1

5 Courses

Semester 2

4 courses + Critical Inquiry
OR
3 courses + Dissertation

- Average completion time 2-3 semesters depending on study option and individuals’ schedule
Programme Structure – Suggested Study Pathways

Part-time Students – ‘Coursework & Dissertation’ Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Courses</td>
<td>3 Courses</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 3</th>
<th>Semester 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 course + Dissertation</td>
<td>2 Courses</td>
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- Average completion time 4-5 semesters depending on study option and individuals’ schedule
Programme Structure – Suggested Study Pathways

Part-time Students – ‘Coursework Only’ Option

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<td>2 Courses</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Semester 3</th>
<th>Semester 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 courses + Critical Inquiry</td>
<td>2 Courses</td>
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Instructional Methods

• Class timings
  – Weekday: 3 hours per course (day or night); night classes are from 6.30pm to 9.30pm
  – Saturday: Full day (10.00am to 5.00pm)

• Mode of Delivery
  – Lectures
  – Class activities (term paper, research paper, written reports, essays, articles, case studies, quizzes, individual and/or group projects, assignments, presentation and so on)

• Course Assessment and Grading
  – Some courses do not have an examination component and are 100% continual assessment (CA) based
  – CA can constitute group and/or individual activities
  – Courses with examination component are assessed using a combination of a final examination (usually 50% to 60% weightage) and CA (usually 40% to 50% weightage)
Admission Requirements

• Good Bachelor’s degree in any discipline from a recognised University

• Preference is given to those with
  – good undergraduate academic performance at a reputable University
  – good written and spoken communication in English
  – working experience in an information-related field
  – maturity and breadth of thinking and experience
  – passion and interest in the information studies field

• Foreign students from Universities whose medium of teaching is not in English, an English proficiency test e.g. TOEFL, IELTS, etc. is required:
  – Minimum TOEFL score: 600 (paper-based), 250 (computer-based) or 100 (Internet-based)
  – Minimum IELTS score: 6.5
  – The IELTS sub-scores should not be less than 6.5
Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund Graduate Scholarship

- Awarded to **TOP TWO students** from the MSc in Information Studies programme after the end of first semester (August – November).

- Based on best academic performance
What Our Graduates Do

• Information analytics-related careers
  – Information Analysts/Managers
  – Data Scientists
  – Records/Database Administrators/Managers

• Library careers
  – Librarians
  – Archivists

Technology-related careers
  Data Visualisation Specialists
  Information Architects
  Systems Engineer/Developer

• Research careers
  – Researchers
  – Lecturers/Professors (Academia)