

Dear New SLIS Students:

First of all, let me welcome you to Simmons SLIS! My name is Sanda Erdelez, and I am the Director of the School of Library and Information Science. I'm writing to provide you with some information that will help you to select your first LIS courses.

As you prepare to register for your first semester at SLIS and begin designing your program of study, it is important to keep the following in mind:

- LIS Virtual Orientation: [LIS 400-OL](#) is required for all LIS students (no-credit, no-cost)
- [LIS Core Curriculum](#): *The three required core courses listed below should be among the first four classes you register for and complete at SLIS:*
 - LIS 407: Information Sources and Services
 - LIS 415: Information Organization
 - LIS 488: Technology for Information Professionals

Full-time vs. Part-time Registration

If you are planning to study **full-time**, you should plan to register for 3 LIS classes (9 credits) per semester. You may choose to register for all three of the required core courses in your first semester, or you may register for and complete the required core courses across your first two full-time semesters.

If you are planning to study **part-time**, you should plan to register for 1 or 2 LIS classes (3 or 6 credits) each semester. Depending on how many classes you take each semester, you may register for and complete the required core courses across your first few part-time semesters.

Considering a Concentration?

During the application process, you indicated that you did not want to pursue a concentration at this time, and instead will be pursuing the Design Your Own option. However, if you are considering pursuing a concentration, you might wish to select first semester courses that reflect the requirements of these degree concentrations so that you may more easily continue your studies.

If you are considering focusing your studies in [Archives Management](#) or [Cultural Heritage](#), you might prioritize LIS 415 and LIS 438 (Introduction to Archives) in your first semester.

If you are considering participating in the [School Library Teacher Program](#), you might wait until your second semester to register for LIS 488 because students in the SLTP are required to take LIS 460 (Technology and the School Library Teacher) instead of LIS 488. It might be a good idea to wait to register for LIS 488 until a decision to pursue school librarianship is made.

If you have any questions about selecting and registering for courses, please feel free to reply to this email. You will receive an email in the coming days with instructions on how to register for the classes you select, and you will also receive the name of your advisor in August. Please make an appointment to speak with your advisor as soon as you receive their name.

We look forward to having you join us this fall!

Best,

Sanda Erdelez
Director, School of Library and Information Science