Bachelor of Information Technology - Information Resource Management: a joint initiative between Carleton University and Algonquin College

Carleton University and Algonquin College are collaborating on the development of a new joint degree program, the Bachelor of Information Technology - Information Resource Management (BIT-IRM). This unique 4-year program will enable students to graduate with both a Bachelor of Information Technology degree and a Library and Information Technician diploma.

Program overview
The BIT-IRM will provide a carefully designed multidisciplinary curriculum in information management and information technology that will prepare students for a variety of career opportunities in libraries, non-profit organizations, government, the private sector, and academic institutions.

Advantages of the program
• Focus on information management
• Includes courses in social media
• Opportunities for practicum and experiential learning including experience.
• The flexible structure of the program also enables students to incorporate a minor of their choice to develop a subject area specialty.
• Bridge program has been designed for students who already have an LIT diploma to reduce the time to obtain the BIT degree.

How the program works
Students will be enrolled at Carleton University and Algonquin College and will be required to complete four years of study at both institutions. Both institutions regularly consult with representatives from employers to incorporate a minor of their choice to develop a subject area specialty.

Laboratory facilities
Both institutions provide state-of-the-art laboratory facilities that are dedicated to the BIT-IRM program. The facilities are equipped with the latest technology to provide students with hands-on learning experiences.

Tuition into information technology in the workplace
Both institutions incorporate current job requirements into courses to ensure graduates are prepared for the workplace.

How it works
Students will be required to complete courses at both institutions, and both institutions will be involved in the delivery of the program.

Future opportunities
The degree, diploma combination prepares students for a variety of career opportunities in libraries, non-profit organizations, government, the private sector, and academic institutions.

Lab costs
Students will be required to pay student fees to both institutions.

Senior research project
Senior research project

Library software
Library software

Network technology
Network technology

Marketing in the IT sector
Marketing in the IT sector

Software development
Software development

Intermediate programming
Intermediate programming

Collection development
Collection development

Communication skills for IRM
Communication skills for IRM

Metadata and cataloguing I
Metadata and cataloguing I

Introduction to information society
Introduction to information society

Metadata and cataloguing II
Metadata and cataloguing II

Metadata and cataloguing III
Metadata and cataloguing III

Reference I
Reference I

Reference II
Reference II

Reference III
Reference III

Research methodology
Research methodology

Legal issues in information technology
Legal issues in information technology

Classification
Classification

Subject analysis and indexing
Subject analysis and indexing

Introduction to statistics
Introduction to statistics

Introduction to business
Introduction to business

Intermediate programming
Intermediate programming

Project management
Project management

Directed reading for IRM
Directed reading for IRM

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Program overview

The BIT-IRM is a carefully designed multidisciplinary program offering a blended curriculum of courses in web interface development, programming, business, information management, database theory and development, communication skills, French, Library software, marketing, special collections and network technology.

Advantages of the program

- The flexible structure of the program also enables students to incorporate a minor of their choice to develop a subject area specialty.
- A bridge program has been designed for students who already have an LIT diploma to reduce the time to obtain the BIT degree.

Laboratory facilities

Up to date facilities, equipment and software at each institution will be designed and maintained specifically for the program. Computer labs will enrich the student experience by providing access to the latest technology available.

Tuned into information technology in the workplace

Both institutions regularly consult with representatives from employers in order to track current, emerging and future trends in information technology. Consultation keeps the program in sync with the skills and competencies desired by employers.

BIT-IRM courses

Courses offered at Algonquin College: 7 credits
Courses offered at Carleton University: 13 credits

Year 1
- Introduction to information society
- Metadata and cataloguing I
- Collections management
- Web interface development
- Reference I
- Subject analysis and indexing
- Introduction to programming
- Reader’s advisory services

Year 2
- Metadata and cataloguing II
- Classification
- Introduction to business
- Intermediate programming
- Reference II
- Information management
- Introduction to statistics
- Database theory and development
- French I

Year 3
- Metadata and cataloguing III
- Communication skills for IRM
- Legal issues in information technology
- Research methodology
- Reference III
- French II
- Directed reading for IRM
- Project management

Year 4
- Library software
- Marketing in the IT sector
- Network technology
- Archives and Special Collections
- Practicum for IRM
- Senior research project

Future opportunities

The degree/diploma combination opens the door to a broad range of career opportunities such as libraries, information management, web design and development, and design and production.

How the program works

Students registered in the program will be enrolled at both Carleton University and Algonquin College and will benefit from the facilities, teaching staff, resources and expertise at both institutions.

Laboratory facilities

Up to date facilities, equipment and software at each institution will be designed and maintained specifically for the program. Computer labs will enrich the student experience by providing access to the latest technology available.

Tuned into information technology in the workplace

Both institutions regularly consult with representatives from employers in order to track current, emerging and future trends in information technology. Consultation keeps the program in sync with the skills and competencies desired by employers.

Graduates from the program will have:
- a marketable skill set and be well equipped to work in the information resource sector in the 21st century.
- excellent opportunities for laddering into MLIS programs as well as pursuing Master’s and PhD programs at Carleton University including Information Technology and Human-Computer Interaction.