United States and Canada

ALA accredits 62 programs at 57 institutions in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. Currently, there are 7 programs in Canada and a program at the University of Puerto Rico.¹ The Canada Library Association also certifies 18 undergraduate library technician programs (2-3 year degrees).² There are an additional 21 graduate programs in library and information studies which are not accredited by the ALA’s Committee on Accreditation, including programs at the University of California-Berkeley, University of Delaware, Minnesota State University, Central Missouri State University, University of Central Arkansas, East Carolina University, Utah State University and Old Dominion.³

Latin America and the Caribbean

Johnson (2006)⁴ identified 100 institutions currently offering LIS programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. The countries with the most programs were Brazil with 40, Argentina with 15 and Mexico with 11. Gallardo (2007)⁵ found that Latin American librarians are most commonly trained at the undergraduate level, but that 17 master’s programs do exist in the region. In regards to curriculum, archival science is taught as a completely separate subject from that of library science, and there has been a recent shift in LIS education from the traditional focus on librarianship to a broader information studies curriculum.⁶ The University of the West Indies in Jamaica provides the English language LIS education for 10 different countries in the region (primarily Caribbean island nations). Countries in the region with no evidence of LIS education include Haiti, Nicaragua, Guyana and Suriname.⁷

Middle East

In the Gulf States, 7 universities in 4 countries provide LIS education (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman). Education is primarily on the undergraduate level, with 4 universities in 3 countries offering a master’s degree.⁸ Three of those 4 graduate programs enroll a total of approximately 100 master’s level students (i.e., King Abdulaziz University in Saudi Arabia, Sultan Qaboos University in Oman and Kuwait University).⁹ The master’s degree at Kuwait University, the only practitioner-oriented program, is taught in English and is based on the ALA-accredited master’s degree. There are more than 70 LIS departments in Iran offering degrees through the doctoral level.¹⁰ Five universities in Iraq (University of Baghdad, Baghdad Technical Institute, University of Mosul, Mosul Technical Institute, and the University of Basrah) have LIS programs, ranging from the associate’s to the doctoral level.¹¹ Countries in the region with no evidence of LIS education include Jordan, Syria and Yemen.¹²
**Southeast Asia**

Six of the 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (SEAN) offer LIS education (i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam). In Singapore, the only professional LIS program is a MSc in Information Studies from the Nanyang Technological University. Established in 1993, students in the program study part-time and must complete 6 core courses, 2 electives and a dissertation. In Thailand, 16 universities have LIS education, with 9 offering master’s programs. Recent changes in LIS curricula have included the inclusion of knowledge management and information systems subjects in Malaysia and and Singapore and digital information and new media in Thailand and Vietnam. Countries in the region with no evidence of LIS education include Brunei, Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos.

**South Asia**

Four of the 8 member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) offer LIS education (i.e., India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka). Beginning in 1903, India was one of the first nations in the developing world to offer LIS education. LIS education in India ranges from the certificate to the PhD level. In Pakistan, LIS education ranges from the bachelors to the PhD level. In Bangladesh, LIS education ranges from a one-year diploma to the PhD level. In Sri Lanka, LIS education ranges from a certificate to a two-year master’s degree. The focus of LIS education in the region tends to be on the traditional side of library management (i.e., cataloging, information services). Countries in the region with no evidence of LIS education include Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal.

**East Asia**

In China, there are approximately 50 departments of library and information science and/or information management. Less than 20 of those 50 departments focus primarily on library science, enrolling about 1,000 graduate students in library science each year. In Japan, 296 colleges and universities offer a librarian training (certificate) program. A number of these institutions provide undergraduate degrees and an additional 8 offer a master’s degree and 4 offer a doctoral degree. Of LIS programs in South Korean, 33 offer undergraduate degrees and 22 of those offer graduate degrees. There is no evidence of LIS education in North Korea.

**Africa**

More than 50 LIS schools can be found throughout Africa, with the largest concentration in English-speaking countries. Countries with the largest numbers of LIS schools include: Nigeria (14), South Africa (13), Kenya (5), Sudan (3), Zimbabwe (3), Ethiopia (2), Tanzania (2) and Zambia (2). Botswana, Eritrea, Ghana, Malawi, Namibia, Morocco, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Uganda each have 1 LIS school.
Programs are offered from the certificate to doctoral level. Ocholla and Bothma (2007) found 75 undergraduate, 26 master’s and 16 doctoral programs in central, southern and eastern Africa. Counties in the region with no evidence of LIS education include Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe Seychelles, Somalia, Swaziland and Togo.

Russia and Central Asia

In Russia, there are 26 institutions of higher learning offering LIS education on both undergraduate and graduate levels. Kazakhstan has 3 LIS programs, with degrees offered on the undergraduate and graduate levels. Countries in the region with no evidence of LIS education include Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Europe

Full professionalization of librarianship took place in Europe after WWII (and especially in the 1960s). In the 1970s, European LIS education was largely divided into two groups: theoretical education for librarianship and practical training for library work. The Bologna Declaration of 1999 calls for comparable degree requirements across all EU member educational systems; there has been much work towards this end in the LIS education sector. Degrees are offered at all levels in almost every European nation. Numbers range from: the United Kingdom which has 14 universities offering LIS education, Spain which has 16 and Portugal which has 17 to Greece which has 3. Countries in the region with no evidence of LIS education include Andorra, Armenia, Cyprus, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco and San Marino.

Oceania

In Australia, 10 universities provide LIS education. Five of those universities offer programs at both undergraduate and graduate levels, 4 offer graduate programs, and 1 offers only an undergraduate program. Library technician programs are also available from vocational institutes in Australia. In New Zealand, 4 educational institutions currently provide LIS education (The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, Te Wananga o Raukawa, Victoria University of Wellington and The University of Auckland). Two of these institutions offer certificates and bachelor degree programs only, while the other 2 offer master’s and doctorate level programs. Countries in the region with no evidence of LIS education include East Timor, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Tonga and Tuvalu, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.
Works Cited


