

# Master of **LIBRARY SCIENCE**

[mtsu.edu/program/library-science-m-l-s](https://mtsu.edu/program/library-science-m-l-s)

## **A FLEXIBLE, FORWARD-THINKING ONLINE M.L.S. PROGRAM EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS**

The role of librarians is continually evolving to meet the needs of our communities, from the smallest of rural counties to large urban areas. Here at MTSU, our Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) program is designed to prepare graduates to excel in today's multicultural and global society. Our courses are taught by faculty with real-world experience and a user-based mindset, who focus on helping students build their library science knowledge while utilizing new and emerging technology, instruction, and management skills.

The Library Science program at MTSU has prepared library professionals since 2001 and is one of the most affordable programs in the state.

## **FOUR FOCUS AREAS—PUBLIC, ACADEMIC, SPECIAL, AND SCHOOL LIBRARIANSHIP**

The Master of Library Science degree program consists of 36 credits, with classes that are 100% online and asynchronous (except for the required in-person components of the field experience), allowing for greater flexibility with working students.

As a student, you can choose to focus on public, academic, school, or special libraries. All students complete a field experience to gain needed skills and confidence. As you complete the program you'll showcase your knowledge, skills, and experience in an ePortfolio, which can be shared with future employers.

## **LIBRARY INFORMATION SPECIALIST PREK-12 ENDORSEMENT**

For applicants interested in PreK-12 endorsement, the M.L.S. program is approved by the Tennessee Department of Education. Endorsement requires only 24 credit hours of coursework.

To obtain initial teacher licensure in addition to the M.L.S. degree requires 42 credit hours, which includes a semester of student teaching. Applicants in a job-embedded position can apply to the Job-Embedded Practitioner program. All endorsement seekers must obtain a qualifying score on the Praxis School Librarian (5312) test.

## **ACCREDITATION**

Middle Tennessee State University has been granted precandidacy status by the Committee on Accreditation of the American Library Association. Precandidacy status is an indication that the Master of Library Science Program at Middle Tennessee State University has voluntarily committed to participate in the ALA accreditation process and is actively seeking accreditation. Precandidacy does not indicate that the program is accredited nor does it guarantee eventual accreditation of the program by ALA.

## **COURSE OFFERINGS**

The program is fully online with no on-campus presence required. Courses are taught asynchronously through the D2L course management system—no need to be online at a certain time. Collaborative papers, guided discussion, individual assignments, and field experiences enable students to learn together and get support from instructors, classmates, and practicing librarians. Each course is tailored to individual student interest. Students may propose alternative electives in other disciplines if those help attain their goals.

In 2023, a dual degree program was approved, combining the Master of Library Science and the Master of Social Work for candidates interested in that option.

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Office of Financial Aid provides financial assistance to qualified students. Results from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are required before eligibility can be determined for federal financial aid programs.

## **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Holly Hebert**

M.L.S. Program Director  
College of Education  
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**WOMACK EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

*difference* **MAKERS**

## PROGRAM OF STUDY: MASTER OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

(all courses 3 credit hours)

### Required Core Courses (18 hours)

LIBS 6000	Librarianship
LIBS 6011	Collection Development and User Services
LIBS 6015	Introduction to Information Intermediation, Resources, and Instruction
LIBS 6020	Organization of Information
LIBS 6030	Information Technology for Information Professionals
LIBS 6060	Understanding Research for Evaluation in Libraries

### Administration (3 hours)

LIBS 6100	Management of Libraries
LIBS 6105	School Library Management

### Field Experience (3 hours)

LIBS 6550	Supervised Field Experience in Library Science
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### Electives (12 hours)

LIBS 6106	Introduction to Leadership in Libraries
LIBS 6201	Public Libraries
LIBS 6310	Materials for Literacy of Children
LIBS 6311	Materials for Literacy of Young People and Adults
LIBS 6320	Information Searching Strategies
LIBS 6330	Digital Library Collections
LIBS 6340	Integration of Learning Theory, Programs, and Technology
LIBS 6345	Instructional Strategies for Information Professional
LIBS 6401	Academic Libraries
LIBS 6550	Supervised Field Experience in Library Science (may be taken once more as an elective)
LIBS 6700	Special Libraries and Librarianship

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to the Master of Library Science program requires:

1. an earned bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college with an acceptable grade point average (2.75 GPA) in all college work taken
2. three letters of recommendations from professionals
3. 500-word essay (Statement of Purpose) regarding applicant's reasons for seeking the M.L.S. at MTSU
4. (current teacher's license for those with another master's degree seeking non-degree school library endorsement only)

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

We have a rolling admissions process and admit students for the fall, spring, and summer semesters.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

All application materials are to be submitted to the College of Graduate Studies.

The applicant must:

1. Submit application with the \$50 application fee to [mtsu.edu/graduate/](https://mtsu.edu/graduate/).
2. Submit official transcripts from all collegiate institutions attended.
3. Submit three letters of recommendation from professors or professionals.
4. Submit Statement of Purpose (500 words).

## College of GRADUATE STUDIES



For more information about the College of Graduate Studies at Middle Tennessee State University, visit [mtsu.edu/graduate](https://mtsu.edu/graduate) or contact us at [askgrad@mtsu.edu](mailto:askgrad@mtsu.edu).

College of Graduate Studies  
Sam H. Ingram Building  
MTSU Box 42  
2269 Middle Tennessee Blvd.  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37132  
615-898-2840

*Ex Scientia Vera*



I AM *true* **BLUE**

0325-1346 / Middle Tennessee State University does not discriminate against students, employees, or applicants for admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, age, status as a protected veteran, genetic information, or any other legally protected class with respect to all programs and activities sponsored by MTSU. Inquiries about Title IX can be directed to the Title IX Coordinator and/or the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached at Cope Administration Building 116, 1301 East Main Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37132; [Christy.Sigler@mtsu.edu](mailto:Christy.Sigler@mtsu.edu) or 615-898-2185. The MTSU policy on non-discrimination can be found at [mtsu.edu/tec](https://mtsu.edu/tec).

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