

Thesis Title Trends in Library Science Curriculum and Instruction  
in Universities

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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to study future trends in library science curriculum and instruction at first degree level in universities in the year 1995. The sample consisted of 26 library science, information science and higher education experts. The instrument used in the study was questionnaire. Data were collected by using the Delphi technique. The experts responded in 3 rounds. Firstly, the open-ended questionnaire was used to gather the opinion from the samples. At the second and third rounds the 6 point scale Likert type questionnaires were used for the expert group to indicate probability weight. The questionnaires of the second and third rounds were of the same statements but the third one, the median and interquartile range were also shown. The collected data were analysed by the median, mode and interquartile range.

The results of the study are as follows:

1. Most of the objectives of library science curriculum are still the same. Newly-added objectives are ability to be the information scientist and ability to use technology relating to library operations.

2. Emphasis is on professional resources suitable for working in private and business enterprises, and also in special and public libraries.

3. The structure of library science curriculum will be more flexible without much change on main points.

4. The total credits required for graduation will be 120-150 credits.

5. General education in library science curriculum, especially in science, will include technology and applied science more than pure science. More credits for elective courses will be granted.

6. The content of library science education will be an integration of library and information science with more earned credits, fewer required courses and more concentration on specialization.

7. Instructional objectives emphasizes primarily on abilities of application, development and adaption. Subsequential objectives concern experiences in applying technology to library works. Students should be capable in voicing their opinions, solving problems and doing independent research.

8. Variety of techniques and teaching methology beside lecture will be used.

9. More modern instructional aids will be used.

10. Group dynamics and other learning activities will be expanded.

11. Measurement and evaluation are for the purpose of application of knowledge in library actual work in various conditions, knowledge and understanding in theories, and creative idea.

12. More periodic tests of which the criteria of measurement and evaluation depend on the content.

13. Exercises to increase practical experiences are used the highest in measurement and evaluation method.

14. Concentration is on fieldworks in library mechanization.

### Recommendations

Applications of the research findings are as follow:

1. The Library Science Departments in various universities should take into their considerations of adding "information science" to the discipline, that is "library and information science"

2. Develop first degree level curriculum in accordance with the research results.

3. Compare the content of library professional education indicated in the findings with the actually offered courses in the program for further improvement.

4. Establish minimum standard criteria for the library science profession.

5. Improve the instructor's teaching program through the implication of research results on the points concerning learning and teaching process, and measurement and evaluation.

Suggestions for further research are as follow:

1. More in-depth research is needed on the objectives, structure and content, learning and teaching process, measurement and evaluation of the library science curriculum at the first degree level.

2. Study trends in Library science curricula at other levels through the use of Delphi technique.

3. Research on other aspects of library and information science by using Delphi technique.