



Review Paper

Library and Information Science Education of Odisha (India) in 21st Century

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Abstract

The study's goal is to investigate the development and history of the LIS educational system in Odisha, India, highlighting the historical development, current status, historical development of library science education. The study overviews the development of LIS education in India, from 1900s to modern education system. The paper also discusses the various levels of LIS education available in Odisha, India from certificate courses to higher degree program. A diverse range of LIS programs such as Master's and Bachelor's degrees and Doctoral levels are provided by the Universities and Colleges of Odisha. There are now around 22 universities/colleges in Odisha that offer different levels of programme in LIS. The article offers helpful, up-to-date information about the expansion and advancement of LIS education in Odisha for students, researchers, and LIS professionals. The article offers up-to-date details on schools, universities, and other establishments that offer research and education programs in library and information studies.

Keywords: Academic Institution, Odisha, India; Library Science Education; Library Science Course; Library and Information Science (LIS) Syllabus.

Introduction

The history of education in library and information science in India is extensive and vibrant, which reflects the country's commitment to innovation and knowledge exchange. In the early 1800s, Young people worked under experienced librarians to gain expertise in librarianship. However, librarians' work has become increasingly complex and technologically dependent over time. As a result, library science education has moved from academic settings to university professional schools.

The field of library and information science is interdisciplinary that associated with the collection, organization, management, preservation, and dissemination of information. It covers the study of libraries, information sources, and the tools and techniques used to acquire, store, manage, retrieve, and distribute knowledge. In the digital age, LIS has expanded to include digital resource management, online information systems, and emerging technologies.

Over the years, Odisha's library and information science (LIS) curriculum has seen tremendous expansion and change, which has advanced the field in India. The creation of numerous schools offering a variety of programs, from certificate courses to PhD degrees, has highlighted the expansion of LIS education in the state. To satisfy researchers' and students' professional and academic needs, there are currently about 22 academic institutions offering comprehensive LIS education with a vibrant educational environment and a long history.

Literature Review: Kumar and Sharma¹ discuss about the history of library and information science (LIS) instruction in India. As more university-level courses were established, the discipline became more well-known. The National Knowledge Commission's (NKC) recommendations for changes and reforms to the educational system are required. Yadav and Gohain² discuss about the most recent advancements and trends in Indian LIS education and training. Colleges, universities, and other organizations that provide library and information studies training programs, research, and instruction are detailed in this page.

Brar *et al.*³ explains the numerous library and information science courses that are available at various Indian institutions and makes some important suggestions. They advise that employable skills be taught to LIS students and that courses are regularly revised to reflect current trends. Khanchandani⁴ explored the origins of LIS education in India and the effects of technological advancements on it.

Pandita and Singh⁵ reveal that throughout their study period from 2011-2018, LIS education is more popular among female students in India. 52.30% of female students were enrolled in LIS courses, whereas 47.70% of male students were in the same program. Singh and Shastri⁶ discuss the several facets of LIS education in India. According to their analysis, universities and colleges offering bachelor's to doctoral research programs in library and information science have grown at an unparalleled rate over the past 20 years.

Objective of the study: i. To discuss the historicity of Library and Information Science Education in India. ii. To determine the total number of academic institutions in Odisha that offer Library Science programmes. iii. To find out the level of LIS education (including research) courses that Odisha's LIS departments provide. iv. To discuss the subject coverage of LIS courses by UG, PG and NEP-2020 syllabus.

Methodology

The relevant data in the present study is collected from all the academic institution websites of Odisha that offers Library science courses and from the SAMS Portal (Student Academic Management System). A comprehensive review of high-quality literature was conducted using primary sources like research articles, book chapters, and conference proceedings in order to track down historical facts and numbers regarding LIS education in India, as well as various levels of LIS education.

Library and Information Science Education

A wide variety of courses in library and information science and associated fields are offered by numerous universities and institutions these days. Different levels of concentration and experience are offered by each, ranging from certificate courses to Ph.D. programs.

Library and information science certificate course: A one-year certificate program in library and information science is offered by certain institutions as a Diploma in Library Science (D. Lib.). After matriculation, individuals can enroll in this course; however, at certain other universities, 10+2 is also required as minimum eligibility.

Diploma Course in Library Science: This three-year program is typically started by polytechnic colleges. A high school diploma is the prerequisite for enrolment in the course. The course offers a thorough theoretical understanding of the subject, which is followed by training as an intern.

B. Lib./BLIS: This one-year bachelor's degree program imparts knowledge of the subject's fundamentals. To enroll in this course, students have to graduate in any subject. It has historically been acknowledged as a Bachelor of Library Science degree. A significant amount of information science has been introduced to some universities' curricula, many institutions offer a three-year, honours Bachelor of Library and Information Science program.

M. Lib./MLIS: After a B. Lib. or BLIS, students can pursue a one-year Master's program. The course imparts advanced knowledge of the subject's abilities and procedures. The Masters of Library Science course has been renamed. However, the study is referred to as Masters of Library and Information Science by the institutes that include a substantial amount of information science in their curricula.

MLIS (Integrated): After graduation, students pursue an integrated two-year program. Some institutions have combined their library and information science bachelor's and master's degree programs into a single, integrated course. While some institutions classify it as a Master's degree in library science, others that provide sufficient information science coursework have named it a Master's degree in library and information science.

PGDLAN: This postgraduate diploma program in library automation and networking takes for one year. It builds the advanced and scientific abilities needed to use computer programs for standard library housekeeping tasks.

Master of Philosophy (M. Phil.): Following Master's degree, this is a one- or one-and-a-half-year research-focused program. This advanced postgraduate degree concentrates on academic investigation and research in the library and information science domain. Students in the M. Phil. program have the chance to work with faculty mentors to undertake original research while delving extensively into particular LIS areas of interest. The University Grants Commission (UGC) discontinued the Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) program in December 2022⁷.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.): which denotes mastery of advanced research and scholarly investigation, is the highest academic degree given in the discipline. Doctoral candidates in Library and Information Science carry out original research, publish works that advance the field's understanding and demonstrate their skill in a dissertation that adds significantly to the body of knowledge in the subject.

Library and Information Science Education in India Historical Prospective:

India's journey in Library and Information Science (LIS) education began with early initiatives such as John Macfarlane's in-service training program for library workers and the establishment of the Baroda School 1911, which was the first LIS training school in the country. Key milestones include the creation of certificate, diploma, and training courses at various institutions, such as the Lahore School in 1915, Andhra Desa in 1920, and the Imperial Library of Calcutta in 1935.

The University of Madras introduced the first postgraduate diploma in 1937, and later, degree courses were launched, with Aligarh Muslim University offering the first Bachelor of Library Science program in 1947. The University of Delhi pioneered a Master's program, M.Phil, and Ph.D. in LIS, with Dr. S. R. Ranganathan playing a pivotal role in shaping LIS education in India.

Other notable developments include the Documentation Research and Training Centre, the Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, and the University of Calcutta's five-year integrated course. These efforts laid the foundation for advanced studies and research in LIS in India⁸.

Odisha Library and Information Science Courses

In Odisha, Library and Information Science Education is Provided at Educational Institutions mention in Table-1. Data are compiled from SAMS Portal and Official website of the above listed academic institutions. The data of Table-1 shows information on various colleges and universities in Odisha,

including their names, districts, and the courses they offer at different academic levels. Among the listed institutions, there is a mix of government colleges, autonomous colleges, and universities spread across different districts of the state. The courses offered include UG, PG and doctoral (PhD) programs.

Table-1: Schools of LIS Courses in Odisha.

Districts	LIS	College/University Name	BLIS (UG)	MLIS (PG)	BLIS & MLIS (1year each)	Ph. D.
Sundargarh	4	Government (Autonomous) College, Rourkela	yes	yes	no	no
		Vedvyas (Degree) Mahavidyalaya, Vedvyas	yes	no	no	no
		Asian workers development institute, Bastia Memorial Trust	no	no	only BLIS (1year)	no
		Rourkela College, Rourkela	yes	no	no	no
Sambalpur	3	Gangadhar Meher University, Amrut Vihar, Sambalpur	no	yes	no	yes
		Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar, Sambalpur	no	yes	no	yes
		Netaji Subash Chandra Bose (Degree) College, Sambalpur	yes	no	no	no
Nuapada	1	Model Degree College, Nuapada	yes	no	no	no
Nayagarh	1	Nilamadhab (Degree) Mahavidyalaya, Kantilo	yes	no	no	no
Jagatsinghpur	1	Balikuda Women's (Degree) College, Balikuda	yes	no	no	no
Jajpur	1	Narasingh Choudhury (Autonomous) College, Jajpur	no	yes	no	no
Ganjam	2	Berhampur University, Bhanja Vihar, Berhampur	no	yes	no	yes
		Sanjay memorial institute of technology, Berhampur	no	no	yes	no
Cuttack	2	Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack	yes	yes	no	no
		Udayanath (Autonomous) College of Science & Technology, Adaspur	yes	no	no	no
Balangir	1	Government (Degree) College, Balangir	yes	no	no	no
Khordha	3	Pandit Nilakantha College of Library and Information Science	no	no	yes	no
		Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar	no	yes	no	yes
		Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology	no	yes	no	yes
Mayurbhanj	1	Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanjadeo University, Sriram Chandra Vihar, Baripada (Main Campus)	no	yes	no	no
Balasore	1	Fakir Mohan University, Vyasa Vihar, Balasore	no	yes	no	no
Bargarh	1	Shakuntala Bidyadhar Women's Degree College, Kamgaon	yes	no	no	no

Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur University, Berhampur University, Utkal University, and Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology offer MLIS and Ph.D. programs, indicating their focus on advanced LIS studies. Some institutions like Asian Workers Development Institute and Sanjay Memorial Institute of Technology offer a specialized one-year BLIS & MLIS course, while others like Pandit Nilakantha College of Library and Information Science focus on one-year programs in LIS. However, Ph.D. programs are quite rare and offered by only a few institutions such as Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur University, and Berhampur University.

Additionally, several colleges like Vedvyas Mahavidyalaya, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose College, and Shakuntala Bidyadhar Women's College provide only BLIS Programme. The next generation of librarians and information professionals is greatly aided by these schools, which train students for jobs in libraries, archives, information centres, and other information-related fields.

Number of LIS Courses provided by the Academic Institution of Odisha

An academic institution in Odisha offers a variety of Library and Information Science (LIS) courses, as indicated by the data available. The institution offers to have three LIS program levels including master's (MLIS), bachelor's (BLIS), and doctoral (Ph.D.) degrees.

Figure-1 shows that there are a lot of undergraduate programs in the subject that can help students who wish to pursue careers in library and information management. In total, 11 colleges and universities offer the BLIS and MLIS program is offered by 10 educational institutions, suggesting that there are plenty of options for higher study for individuals looking to specialize in or develop their careers in LIS. Finally, there is a dedication to research and top-tier academic training in LIS, even though fewer schools provide doctoral degrees. This is demonstrated by the fact that 5 institutions offer the Ph.D. course in LIS.

The wide range of options available to students in Odisha to pursue LIS education at different levels is highlighted by this distribution.

LIS Status in Academic Institution of Odisha

Many universities in Odisha provide courses in library and information science to meet the demands of students in the subject both academically and professionally. Sambalpur University founded the state's first postgraduate department of library and information science in Odisha in 1976. The university first offered a one-year BLISc program before adding a MLISc program in 1993. The shortened BLISc and MLISc programs were changed into a two-year integrated Master of Library and Information Science degree using the semester-cum-course credit system in order to comply with the UGC Model Regulation-2001. By 2022, 56 research researchers will have received Ph.D., 100 students will have received M.Phil, and over 2000 students will have received MLISc degrees, according to university data.

In 2019, Gangadhar Meher University opened its School of Library and Information Science. The university offers a one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Library Automation and Networking (PGDLAN) as a self-financing study (now this programme was discontinued), a two-year Master's level degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS), and a doctoral degree in Library and Information Science.

The LIS postgraduate program at Berhampur University was established prior to its establishment at Khallikote University following its merger in 2021. The department provides a PhD in library and information science as well as a Master of Library and Information Science (MLISc).

Utkal University's Department of Library and Information Science was established in 1981. Fakir Mohan University started the Postgraduate Department of Library and Information Science for the 2017-18 academic years. It offers self-financing options for the Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) study. Additionally, MSCB University provides a two-year self-financing MLIS degree. In 2022, the Government Autonomous College in Rourkela will start LIS undergraduate and postgraduate programs. Other colleges in Odisha include Sanjay Memorial Institute of Technology, Berhampur, which provides a one-year MLIS and BLIS program, and Bastia Memorial Trust in Rourkela, which provides a one-year BLIS course.

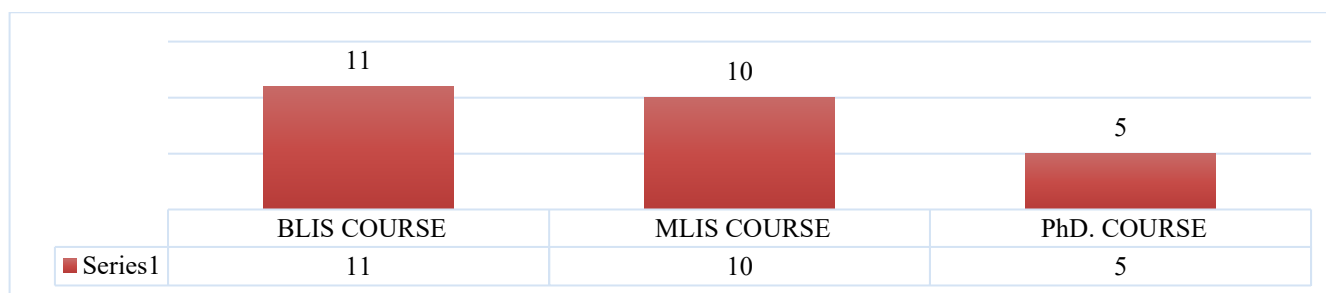


Figure-1: Numbers of Institution provided LIS Courses.

India has a strong infrastructure for distance learning programs in LIS in addition to its regular educational offerings. Some of them such as the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) are providing this facility exclusively. IGNOU offers Bachelors, Masters and even is in the line to extend doctoral programmes in LIS through distance education mode. The course material and the audio-video lessons prepared by IGNOU can match to any international standards in this regard. The Post Graduate Certificate in Digital Library (PGDCL) distance learning course offered by OSOU (Odisha State Open University) focuses on giving students comprehensive knowledge about a variety of topics related to digital libraries, including their features, components, standards, and protocols, as well as IPR & Copyrights, digital rights management, planning, digitization, and more.

Table-2: Basic Master's Degree (2-year) Syllabus.

Theory Paper:
Foundation of Library & Information Science
Knowledge Organisation (Classification)
Knowledge Organisation (Cataloguing)
Information Sources, Systems & Services
ICT and Library Automation
Information Retrieval System
Information Indexing & Searching
Management of Libraries & Information Centres
Research Methodology
Internet & Web Resources
Digital Library
Preservation and Conservation of Library Resources
Information Needs and Seeking Behaviour
Project Work (Dissertation)
Practical Paper:
Knowledge Organisation Library Classification Practical
Knowledge Organisation Library Cataloguing Practical
Library Automation Practical
Digital Library Practical

In order to give students thorough knowledge and practical experience, the Library and Information Science (LIS) Master's level curriculum usually consists of a mix of theoretical and practical papers. In addition to specialized topics like ICT and Library Automation, Information Retrieval, Digital Libraries, and Preservation of Library Resources, the theory papers cover

fundamental topics like the fundamentals of Library and Information Science, Knowledge Organization (including Classification and Cataloguing), Information Source Systems, and Services. The study of information needs and seeking behaviour, as well as research methodology, are essential components of the curriculum. Students also do research work (dissertation) for their fulfilment of Master's degree. Practical papers, such as those on library automation, cataloguing, classification, and digital libraries, concentrate on the use of knowledge in practical contexts.

The library science syllabus (Table-4) is followed by the academic institutions in Odisha that offer 3-year BLIS degree courses. Based on the CBCS Pattern, the syllabus was dropped after the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 went into effect. A redesigned 4-year syllabus for the BLIS program has been introduced in compliance with the new regulations. In order to provide a more thorough and up-to-date approach to library and information science education, this revised curriculum attempts to conform to the standards and goals established by NEP-2020.

Under NEP-2020, the undergraduate degree will be a four-year, multidisciplinary program with several exit and entry points. Those who successfully complete two semesters will receive a certificate; similarly, those who successfully complete four, six, and eight semesters will receive certificates for diplomas, degrees, and honours, respectively.

Discussion

Currently only 22 educational institutions that provide Library and Information Science (LIS) courses in Odisha, indicating the need for more growth and development of this LIS courses. LIS courses must be offered in all the universities in Odisha, in order to satisfy the increasing demand for skilled professional. Since LIS is a professional course, it needs to be introduced to students in higher secondary school so they can see its value at a young age and think about it as a possible future path. Since libraries are essential to the preservation and accessibility of information that influences our past, present, and future, it is essential that LIS education be made more widely known. It is important that LIS courses remain updated to cope with the advancement of digital technologies.

Table-3: Syllabus for Undergraduate (3-year) course as per CBCS (Choice based credit system). Paper Structure of BLIS.

Course	Number of Paper
Cour Course	14 Papers (Theory and Practical)
Discipline Specific Elective	4 Papers
G.E. for Non-LIS Students	4 Papers

Table-4: Basic Core structure of BLIS.

Core course (theory)	Practical
Foundations of Library & Information Science	Library Classification and Cataloguing (Practice)
Information Sources & Services	
Information Processing & Retrieval	DSE (Discipline Specific Course)
Management of Library & Information Centres	Internet Networking
Knowledge Organization & Classification Theory	Web based information resources and services
Library Cataloguing Theory	Information system and Programmes
Fundamentals of Computer	Project/ Technical Writing
Database Management	
Library & Information Literacy	GE (General Elective)
Academic Library System	User's study & user's evaluation
Public Library System	Library & mass communication
System Analysis & Design	Preservation and conservation of library materials
Marketing of Information & Knowledge Management	Research methodology

Table-5: Syllabus for Undergraduate (4-year) as per NEP-2020: Basic Core structure of BLIS as per NEP-2020.

Semester-I	Core-1	Foundations of Library & Information Science
	Core-2	Information and Communication
Semester-II	Core-3	Information Sources
	Core-4	Information Services
Semester-III	Core-5	Library Management-I
	Core-6	Computer Fundamentals
	Core-7	Internet and Web Technologies
Semester-IV	Core-8	Electronic Information Resources
	Core-9	Knowledge Organization
	Core-10	Library Classification Practice
Semester-V	Core-11	Web based Information Services
	Core-12	Information Systems
	Core-13	Resource Description

Semester-VI	Core-14	Library Cataloguing Practice
	Core-15	Library Management – II
Semester-VII	Core-16	Library Automation
	Core-17	Digital Library Systems
	Core-18	Research Methodology
	Core-19	Research Evaluation Metrics
Semester-VIII	Core-20	Library Systems and Specialised Services
	Core-21	Library Users and Information Literacy
	Core-22	Marketing of Library Products and Services
	Core-23	Information Retrieval Systems

Conclusion

Odisha's dedication to producing highly qualified professionals in the industry is demonstrated by the Caliber of its library and information science (LIS) education. In order to satisfy the ever-changing demands of the workforce, the state has been updating its educational programs since the early 1900s. The educational institutions in Odisha offer a wide range of options for aspiring librarians and information scientists, including undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs in addition to certificate and diploma courses. The development of LIS education has been greatly influenced by universities that offer complete programs that blend academic knowledge with real-world skills, such as Sambalpur University, Gangadhar Meher University, Berhampur University and Utkal University. The establishment of new LIS departments and institutions demonstrates the growing significance of information management in the contemporary Information age.

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