

## Library & Information Science at City

### An opportunity to find out what life is like as a PG student in the Department of Library & Information Science here at City.



Thanks for joining us today. Joining us today we have a current Information Science MSc student. Please get in touch with any questions you have about the course and life as a PG student here at City.



Hello everyone. I am a PG student studying Information Science at City and the student representative for my course. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.



Hi everyone. I am a Postgraduate Student Administrator here at City, University of London. I deal with admissions and will be happy to help.



Hi my name's , I'll be starting a part time postgrad this September. I have a couple of quick questions,



Hi - thanks for joining us, ask away



Can you tell me when we get access to City's library?



Hi - So when you come to City, before you start the lectures you will have to go through the registration process and get your Student ID card. Once you have your Student ID you have access to the library amongst other things.



Assuming that writing essays is part of the course.



One final question from me - is doing a work placement part of the course?



Hi - Internships are not a part of this course, but students who wish to are usually able to obtain work experience (paid or voluntary)



Thanks - I'm trying to get up to speed mentally for the course. And it is 20 years since I did my BA do you have any tips on essay writing? Really I mean organising thoughts and structuring the writing - I tried using mind mapping software (Freeplane) when I wrote my personal statement



Well writing essays is indeed part of course. The assignment for most modules is a written essay. As far as tips go, you can go to this link <https://blogs.city.ac.uk/citylis/> which is the CityLIS blog and under the section CityLIS writes you will find essays from previous student. Just browse through those to get a sense of how other students write and what structure they are using.



Hi I'm - I'm studying past-time in September as well. My question is, what days of the week do we have lectures/sessions? I heard its Monday in the first year.



Hello - For part-time students you will have 2 lectures on Monday for the first year and 2 lectures on Friday for the second year.



Hello. I teach on the LIS PG courses. I will leave it to our student and administrator to answer queries, and join in if I can be helpful:)



Thanks, following on, how many essays do we write on a module?



For all the module that require an essay, it will be one essay which would represent 100% of the mark. Particularly on the Library and Information Science Foundation module, which runs Monday morning, you will be required to write 3 blog posts in the duration of the term. Blog posts are not mandatory but they are strongly recommended because the teachers can get a sense of how each student writes. Finally, some electives do not require an essay but have a different type of assignment, for example creating a website. It depends on the elective you choose and, since you are part-time, that would come to be in your second year so you have some time to think it over.



No problem. Happy to help with any more questions you might have.



Do you currently work in a library environment? If so, has it helped in you in your coursework?



I am not currently working in a library environment but I used to before I came here to study. It did help understand a few things. There were times where the lecturers would mention something of significance, such as classification or cataloguing, and I would be able to picture that. But in general it helped me in understanding a bit better about what we would talk about in class. As a matter of fact, it did help me with one of my essays a lot.



Hello - I'm gonna start full-time Library Science in September. Could you tell me if there're any books which is better/might be helpful to read before the course starts?



Hi - Good to have you on board. I strongly recommend Introduction to Information Science by David Bawden and Lyn Robinson. It is an excellent guide to all your modules and the material covered in the lectures is also covered in that book. Personally, I used that book as a resource for my essays too many times and I still use it for my dissertation.



What other advice would you give for students starting in September? In terms of administrative work, joining societies (like SCONUL)...saying goodbye to your social life? 😊



I would definitely recommend joining CILIP, the organisation responsible for Library and Information Science Professionals. They are the ones validating our courses which you might have seen when you applied (approved by CILIP). You really do not have to say goodbye to your social life 😊 You will have lectures once or twice a week and the workload you have to put for the assignments is that much in that sense. Of course you have to read a lot, but there is no reason why you can not enjoy London at the same time. If you are not working and you would want to, while studying I would recommend signing up with Unitemps once you register with City. There you will be able to find a job which meets your course's day and time restrictions.



Thank you - you have been very helpful. Sorry about the annoying questions, but do you get a chance to meet/collaborate with students across different departments? Can you see what other departments are doing?



No problem at all. In your second term, when you choose your elective, depending on which elective you choose you might have classmates from different departments, such as students from Computer Science. Also, although I have not tried it myself, if you have the time and you so wish, you can email the lecturer of a module you are interested in and ask them to allow you to audit. That basically means you can sit in classes and have access to the material but you do not have to do the assignment.



This is great to hear! Thank you again. This has been helpful.



Thank you for joining us.



Happy to help and thank you for joining us.