Careers in Library and Information Science Assignment:
Spring 2024

Name: Michelle Caples

Identify the **career** you are researching: **Digital Librarian**

Using an established career guide (there are a number online, naturally), identify the significant elements of the career, i.e., salary, required education/experience, prospects for employment/career paths & challenges, standard tasks of the practice.

A digital librarian must have a master's degree in LIS. The digital librarian should also have strong technical skills (digital publishing platforms, management of digital files, digital resources, metadata development) in addition to communication (with patrons, other librarians, or staff members), research (research for social media, blogs), problem solving (trouble shoot tech issues, or develop new processes and procedures), and organizational skills. Digital librarians may work at various places, including libraries, museums, publishing companies, or the government. The average salary for a digital librarian is $59,000 and the top 10/0 annual salary is $97,000. The employment prospect for digital librarians will grow at an average rate over the next decade. Most digital librarians work a forty-hour work week.

Indicate where you found this information (title / author / full citation):

Insights, C., 3, P. N., & Career Insights We're committed to being your source for expert career guidance. Come to us in your pursuit of success. (2022, November 3). *Digital librarian job description: Salary, duties, & more*. **CLIMB.** https://climbtheladder.com/digital-librarian/

What are the three most critical pieces of information to you from this or these resources?

a) Digital librarians must frequently update their technical skills to keep up with the latest trends and to remain competitive in the work. Digital librarians with technical skills will be in high demand.

b) Data science will create a huge need for digital librarians in the future.

c) Digital librarians will frequently collaborate with other professionals to provide services to their patrons.

Identify one association relevant to your career choice. What is the mission and/or purpose of this association? How does this relate to your view of your career choice?

The Digital Library Federation Digital Library Federation - DLF (diglib.org) **serves all who are invested in the success of libraries, museums, and archives in the digital age. This organization provides resources about digital information, the profession, networking opportunities, and conferences.**

What, in your opinion, are the significant professional competencies associated with the career?

The digital librarian profession's significant professional competencies include a sound background in metadata, technical skills, especially in digital publishing platforms, such as Gephi, digital collections management, creating digital content, strong communication skills, the ability to do research, organization of information and collaborating with professionals, students, instructors, and patrons.

List five articles, using the APA format, from LIS databases that are relevant to your career research **and** provide **three sentence annotations** about each article. Articles should be no more than 7 years old; **2** should be scholarly journal articles.

a) Nithyananda, K. V., & G. T., K. (2023). Libraries and Digital Humanities: The Intellectual Property Rights Perspective. *DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology*, *43*(4), 300–304. https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.uwm.edu/10.14429/djlit.43.04.19217

   The article examines how intellectual property rights puts a librarian in the cross hairs of acting as an intellectual property lawyer. The article sights the origins of copyrights and how copyrights are useful. The article states informative perspectives as to how the librarian may have to negotiate with trusts, estates, or publishing companies.

b) Cole, F. (2023). Supplementing the Stacks: Expanding Access and Engagement through Sustainable Digital Exhibitions. *Theological Librarianship*, *16*(2), 7–16. https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.uwm.edu/10.31046/tl.v16i2.3341

   This article is about how digital exhibitions are needed to attract the interest of new patrons. The article also cites the challenges of digital exhibitions (money invested, physical parts of exhibitions not transferring to the digital medium. Finally, librarians must produce a way to measure the success of digital collections which range from attendance to how well patrons interact with the exhibition.

c) Yong-Chang Jiang, & Hao Li. (2023). The Theoretical Basis and Basic Principles of Knowledge Network Construction in Digital Libraries. *Knowledge Organization*, *50*(4), 245–256. https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.uwm.edu/10.5771/0943-7444-2023-4-245

   The article states due to growth in information resources there is a need to whittle down how information processed in digital libraries. The authors offer a solution of using

knowledge networks to make connections between knowledge entities. The authors

suggest creating grids to make this happen.

d) Homenda, N. (2021). Persistent URLs and Citations Offered for Digital Objects by Digital Libraries. *Information Technology & Libraries*, *40*(2), 1–12. https://doi-org.ezproxy.lib.uwm.edu/10.6017/ital.v40i2.12987

The article focuses on unique digital collections and the importance of using proper URL

practices. The article states URLS do not lead back to the source of the collection. The

article advocates using persistent URLS to ensure cited URLs to digital objects remain

accessible.

e) Digby, T., Richmond, C., Durden, D., & Munoz, J. (2023). Developing a Multi-Portal Digital Library System: A Case Study of the new University of Florida Digital Collections. *Code4Lib Journal*, *58*, N.PAG

The article focused on how the University of Floria made upgrades to their digital library.

An interesting fact in the article is the library employed developers who had no prior

digital library experience. The upgrade was successful because the focus was on a user-

centered design.

Identify three **specific** continuing education (post MLIS) options for your career choice (conferences, webinars, workshops, courses, etc.):

a) The ALA's eLearning catalog

b) The Public Library Association Conferences

c) American Libraries Live

What, in your opinion, are the most significant ethic codes applied with the career? **Intellectual property and copyrights.**

Find a job listing related to your career choice and

  a) identify the institution posting the job and the job title;

Digital Asset Metadata Librarian - University Libraries-Washington University in St. Louis
[260 Digital Librarian Jobs, Employment February 18, 2024| Indeed.com](#)

  b) extract the requirements for the position;

Preferred Qualifications

- Two years of related experience.
- Experience with content management system for websites and digital content (e.g. Omeka).
- Experience with Piction or other digital asset management systems.
- Experience with open-source digital repository systems, such as Digital Commons, Tind, Fedora repository framework and Hydra/Samvera, or Axiell.
- Project management experience.
- Experience working in a large academic, cultural heritage, or research institution.
- Strong, demonstrated facility with schemas for standards-based non-MARC metadata (e.g. Dublin Core, METS, PREMIS) as well as MARC XML.
- Ability to investigate and learn new metadata standards as required.
- Ability to work effectively and efficiently without direct supervision.
- Knowledge of trends, issues, and resources in digital library development, metadata and cataloging standards, and data management in academic libraries.
- A strong commitment to high quality customer service.
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively on projects across a wide range of departments and for varying audiences.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, both oral and written.
- Strong interpersonal skills, demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative team-based environment, and to communicate well with IT and non-IT staff.
- A strong desire to learn new skills and adeptness to doing so.
- Strong organizational skills and demonstrated ability to manage projects.
- Demonstrated ability to write clear documentation.
- MLIS Degree

  c) identify the responsibilities of the position;

Primary Duties & Responsibilities

- Effectively creates and enhances descriptive metadata in the digital repository, currently Piction, applies appropriate schema based on standards, best practices, and the needs for digital collections. Participates in resource description initiatives supporting the advancement of the discoverability of digital collections.
- Oversees the metadata workflows within the (Digital Asset Metadata System) DAMS. This includes management of metadata workflows, description, and tracking. In collaboration with the Digital Initiatives Metadata Librarian, develops descriptive standards and best practices; develops and implements description workflows; maintains quality assurance, and generates reports.

- Develops policies and procedures around the use of (Digital Asset Metadata System) DAMS and description that abides by best practices/standards and that reflect organizational priorities.
- Collaborates and communicates regularly with the Head of Digital Processing, Preservation and Reformatting regarding project timelines, system workflows and procedures. Acts as liaison between digital asset stakeholders and the descriptive metadata process.
- Collaborates with the Discovery Coordinator on metadata application profiles, and normalization of repository metadata within the discovery platform.

> Participate in library-wide and staff development activities, including department training activities. Perform other technical services duties as assigned.

> d) state any salary listed. **$57, 300-97,700**

Interview **one** practitioner currently active in the field and share where they are employed. Indicate three things you learned which are relevant to your future decisions about your career. Please include the questions you asked your interviewee. Don't hesitate to email me if you need help finding someone to interview!