MIM Committee Report

September 8, 2015

Submitted by Tetyana Bezbabna

Attendees: Tetyana Bezbabna (MIM program Coordinator), Jeff Waters (Coordinator of Graduate Student Services), Kathy Weaver (MIM Program Director), Ann Weeks (Associate Dean for Academic Programs), Andrea Wiggins (Assistant Professor), Jeff Waters (Coordinator of Graduate Student Services).

The MIM Committee met on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 to:

1. Review modifications to the MIM program specializations;
2. Discuss proposed changes in the MIM capstone and internship courses structure and requirement;
3. Review and vote on the following course changes:
    a. INFM 099 *MIM Internship Seminar* – new MIM course introduction
    b. INFM 735 *MIM Internship* – new MIM course introduction
    c. INST 641 *Policy and Ethics in Digital Curation* – course title change
    d. INST xxx *Facilitating Youth Learning in Information and Formal Environments* – new course introduced by the MLS program for the Youth Experience Design (YX) specialization.

1. Review modifications to the MIM program specializations

To help current and potential MIM students see what the MIM program is about and assist them in selecting the right for them information management career path, the MIM program is now offering two specialization tracks: **Information Analysis** and **Technology Design**. These specialization tracks allow students to focus their studies in a particular information management area of their professional interest.

The **Information Analysis** track offers **Data Analytics** or **Strategic Management** specializations, and the **Technology Design** track offers specializations in **User Experience** or **Technology Development**. In addition, the MIM program also has two joint specializations with the iSchool's Master of Library Science program (MLS) in **Community Analytics and Policy**, and in **Archives and Digital Curation**. There is also an option for the thesis track, titled **Information Management Research**. If students are interested in developing a general course of study, there is also an option for the **Individualized Program Plan**.

The following table highlights specific changes to earlier existing MIM specializations:

Former MIM specialization	Current MIM Specialization
Strategic Management of Information	**Strategic Management** - **Specialization title change**
Technology Development and Deployment	**Technology Development** - **Specialization title change**

User Interface/ User Experience	User Experience - **Specialization title change**
Project Management	**Specialization has been removed** - **Project management courses could be taken as part of the Strategic Management specialization**
Organization and Process Analysis	**Specialization has been removed** - **Project management courses could be taken as part of the Strategic Management specialization**
Data Analytics	Data Analytics (no changes)
Information Management Research	Information Management Research (no changes)
Community Analytics and Policy	Community Analytics and Policy (no changes)
Archives and Digital Curation	Archives and Digital Curation (no changes)

2. **Discuss proposed changes in the MIM capstone and internship courses structure and requirement;**

Currently, the MIM program offers two required MIM practicum courses:

- INFM 736 – the internship course - taken along with an internship program during summer in between the first and the second academic years in the program. The course is required; however, students have a choice to waive this course if they have 2 or more years of professional experience in the information management field.
- INFM 737 - the capstone course – students are working with external MIM clients on projects solving information management issues in a client's organization. This class is required and student cannot exempt from it.

The MIM committee discussed the following changes to existing MIM practicum courses:

- Since 2+ years of professional information management experience is one of the MIM program admission requirements, the MIM program considers removing the internship course requirement from the MIM curriculum (since the majority of students are able to waive this requirement). MIM students would still be encouraged to complete internships in summer as this is a strategic way for them to network and build connections in the industry.
- The MIM program is planning to introduce a 2-semester long capstone project (INFM 736 taken in a fall semester and INFM 737 taken in spring, both in student's last academic year in the program). In both courses students will be working with an external iSchool client on a project solving information management issues in a client's organization. INFM 736 would focus on requirements gathering and project planning processes. INFM 737 would focus on actual project execution.

3. **Review and vote on the following iSchool courses:**

- New course introduction **- INFM 099** is a **zero-credit** internship seminar offered by the University of Maryland College of Information Studies (UMD iSchool) that is designed to complement

supervised out-of-campus employment experience (internship, Co-op) of **students enrolled in the Masters of Information Management (MIM) iSchool program.** This course is only open to students enrolled in the Master of Information Management program at the UMD iSchool. The course should help students reflect upon their internship experience as well as their academic coursework.

The INFM 099 course would help international students to meet the academic component requirement of the CPT application. **International students** having F-1 visa must obtain work authorization (Curriculum Practical Training - CPT) if they wish to participate in an off-campus training program. The training is defined as an alternative work/study, internship, cooperative education, or any other type of required internship or practicum, which is offered by sponsoring out-of-campus employers. The CPT application process has multiple requirements (please refer to the following page for more information https://globalmaryland.umd.edu/offices/international-students-scholar-services/curricular-practical-training-cpt).

- New course introduction - INFM 735 is designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences that will help shape their goals as they begin successful high-impact career in the information management field. INFM 735 would be a recommended option for MIM students to take along with their summer internship program.

- Course title change - INST 641 *Policy and Ethics in Digital Curation (*current title *Policy Issues in Digital Curation) -* the new title change better reflects the content of the course, and has been requested by course students. Ethics in digital curation and big data is a topic with increasing attention and importance, and the course title will help reflect our students' engagement with these issues.

- New course introduction - INST xxx *Facilitating Youth Learning in Information and Formal Environments -* this course covers the historical, organizational, and contemporary contexts of formal and informal learning spaces; the principles of teaching, learning, and information literacy that underlie the formal and informal learning spaces; and the leadership role that information professionals can play within their schools, libraries and communities.

Next Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday October 6, 2015.