Introduction
The Department of Library and Information Sciences was established in 1985 within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. See more about the department, programs, faculty, and contact information at https://lis.aiou.edu.pk/.

PhD (Library and Information Sciences) Program: Objectives
The main objective of launching PhD program is to contribute to the national and international Library and Information Sciences (LIS) literature through high quality research particularly focusing on current and future needs. Secondly, there is a high demand from information professionals across Pakistan to have this program at the AIOU platform through unconventional means of education. Thirdly, there is a high number of LIS professionals working in Islamabad and Rawalpindi who intend to enhance their professional qualifications and they find no such program offered by public or private universities in this region. Other objectives include:

- To address the local issues in LIS and provide a viable solution through research.
- To enable LIS professionals to make informed decisions based on research.
- To promote evidenced-based LIS practice through the use of relevant research.
- To promote LIS research culture in Pakistan.
- To enrich Pakistani LIS research literature through a quality research.
- To endeavor to create a new knowledge in LIS.
- To prepare LIS professionals for challenging leadership role.
- To meet the current demand of multidisciplinary research.
- To instill critical and analytical thinking in research students.
- To instill information literacy skills in research students.
- To improve academic writing skills of LIS research students.
- To improve soft skills of LIS research students.
- To provide a specialized manpower to the LIS job market, and
- To promote information entrepreneurship by establishing industry-academia linkages through need-based research.

Scope of the Program and Job Market
There is no such program being offered by any university, public or private, in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Baluchistan. Further, only a few public sector universities in Pakistan (University of the Punjab, University of Sargodha, Islamia University Bahawalpur, University of Karachi, and Sindh University) are offering this program in LIS with limited number of seats and annual pass-out. Moreover, no public sector university is offering this program in a flexible mode of study that could be affordable to on-job professionals who cannot leave their homes and jobs for a long time for conventional mode of study. There are a number of academic and top managerial positions vacant in public and private universities and government colleges in this discipline (LIS) owing to lack of specialized manpower having PhD qualifications. The fee package of some of the private universities offering this program is not affordable to many of the interested candidates. Therefore, the afore-mentioned circumstances demand this program to be offered at the AIOU platform.
Entry Requirements (Admission Criteria) and Number of Seats
PhD in LIS is a merit-based program. Any candidate having MS/MPhil/MSc(Hons) degree in Library and Information Sciences or equivalent qualification from an HEC-recognized institution with at least 3.0/4.0 CGPA in semester system or first division (60% marks) in annual system can apply for admission. The number of seats will be limited based on merit as per AIOU/HEC policy. The admission merit will be determined as per AIOU rules/policy.

Interested candidates should apply as mentioned in advertisement published in leading national dailies, social media, and AIOU website <https://aiou.edu.pk/>. No TA/DA or other expenses will be on the part of AIOU.

Duration of the Program
The duration of this program is as per AIOU/HEC rules/policy.

PhD (LIS) Coursework
There will be a two-semester PhD (LIS) coursework of 18 credit hours, consisting of six courses of three credit hours each. All these courses are compulsory. The semester-wise breakup of the courses is as under:

1\(^{st}\) Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.#</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7831</td>
<td>Research Methods: Information, Systems, and Context</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7832</td>
<td>Development of Library and Information Science in Pakistan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7833</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2\(^{nd}\) Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.#</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7834</td>
<td>Information: Perspectives, Needs, Seeking, and Use</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>7835</td>
<td>Leadership and Team Management</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7836</td>
<td>Seminar in Advanced Research</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
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Subsequent Semesters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.#</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7840</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>36</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: There shall also be a comprehensive examination at the end of second semester of the coursework as per AIOU rules. Synopsis orientation workshop(s) shall be held as per AIOU rules.

Research Proposal and Thesis (Third and subsequent semesters)
As per AIOU rules
Mode of Study
As per AIOU rules/policy.

Medium of Study
English language will be the medium of study. Students may not opt for any other language for any of the components of this program.

Assessment/Evaluation of Students’ Coursework
Multiple criteria shall be adopted to assess students’ coursework that may include any or all or combination of assignment, presentation, academic paper/essay/article/synopsis, quiz, midterm and final exams. Pass marks shall be as AIOU rules.

Fee Tariff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fee</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission Fee</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Fee</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition fee per credit hour Rs.2,500 = (Rs.2,500×9 [3 courses of 3 credit hours each])</td>
<td>22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab/Library fee per semester</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total fee for 1st Semester Rs.</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,700</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fee for subsequent semesters including thesis and thesis evaluation fee shall be informed at the time of their admission/event.

Note: The AIOU reserves the right to make any change(s) anytime in this program partly or wholly without prior notice.

Faculty Members

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