

PhD

Information Science

Transforming the curiosity of a rising generation of scholars, researchers, teachers and leaders into a source of innovative, meaningful contributions to the information field.

Program Objectives and Goals We seek to create a learning environment that values the ways rigorous examination and critical analysis contribute to the information field's knowledge base; establish a culture and infrastructure that nurtures the advancement and dissemination of new knowledge in the field of information science; facilitate and mentor advanced study in information science; nurture and promote individual intellectual growth, strengths and interests.

Our Approach We are an interdisciplinary program inspired by the possibilities of information as a catalyst for change, growth and innovation.

Tomorrow's Information Leaders Through coursework and practica (teaching and research), PhD candidates develop a strong foundation in information science, in preparation for completion of a dissertation in this field. Students are introduced to the scope, origins, methods, key concepts and variables, issues, theoretical frameworks and assumptions that define the Information School's uniquely interdisciplinary approach to the study of information.

Students are supported throughout their studies through a combination of mentoring, involvement in research projects with iSchool faculty as principal investigators and a culture of close collaboration with their peers. The breadth of expertise of doctoral students and faculty supports the School's goal to produce rising academics nimble enough to address a broad range of issues in information science in diverse contexts.

As a mentor and teacher I help shape the ways our PhD students approach the complex relationship between information and society. The teaching and mentoring process is reciprocal—I experience transformation and growth myself, adding to my enthusiasm for investigating the connections between research, society and academia.



Karine Barzilai-Nahon

management
computer science
social sciences
communication

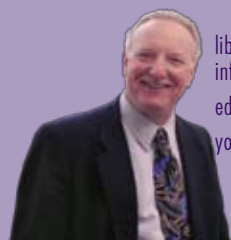
A PhD education is about finding your passions, translating those passions into research and design questions, and developing theoretical and methodological approaches that position you to gain traction on those questions. As a teacher and mentor, I seek to facilitate that process—one that mirrors my own. I also support rich and rigorous apprenticeship.



Batya Friedman

design
human-computer interaction
social sciences

I take an active role with students through their general exam, proposal writing and final defense. PhD students are future peers, and I treat them as such—expecting work that is important and of high quality. We work through the conceptualizations and methodologies relevant to their studies and the doctoral thesis process, and help define and fulfill their future aspirations.



Mike Eisenberg

library &
information science
education
youth

I came to the iSchool seeking a broader perspective on human-computer interaction and assistive technology. My peers and professors have continually impressed me with the breadth of their expertise and with their commitment to studying technology in context. My iSchool experiences will enable me to conduct theoretically informed and socially relevant HCI research.



Shaun Kane

human-computer interaction
assistive technology
social sciences

I work in research and instruction with faculty from multiple disciplines, including human-computer interaction, computer-supported cooperative work and library and information science. With support I am able to craft my research on how social networks, whether technologically mediated or not, shape different forms of behavior—specifically high school youth civic participation.



Peyina Lin

social sciences
media studies
information science
youth

Switching career paths can be a challenge. iSchool faculty and staff helped me leverage my life and professional experiences in a way that informed my decision to further pursue graduate study. Faculty asked insightful questions that guided me through the process leading to the first day of doctoral coursework.



Deborah Turner

information science
communication
social sciences

The iSchool allows me to work at the edge of multiple, complementary disciplines. State of the art faculties in both information science and education have provided opportunities to jump right into the process of research and establish connections with practitioners in the field. As a result, my work is having an immediate, tangible impact on youth services.



Eric Meyers

library &
information science
education

PhD Information Science

With a diverse student body and award-winning faculty working closely to explore issues at the leading edge of the field, the UW Information School is a great place to embark on an academic career.

Faculty and academic advisors also are available to discuss how your interests map to our areas of expertise.

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