



## Frequently Asked Questions – Master’s of Library Media Degree Students

### 1. *How long will it take me to complete the program?*

The catalog states that you have six years from when you take your first course to when you must complete all degree requirements. Within this time frame you are free to take the courses at a pace that suits you. The MLM degree consists of 12 courses and it is possible to complete the degree in 3 semesters, taking 4 courses per semester. However, this is considered more than a full graduate load and we do not recommend that students take this load even if they are full-time students. It is more normal for students who have full time jobs to take 2 classes per semester and complete the program over a two-year period.

Most masters-level classes are offered twice a year - once downtown and once in Alpharetta. The professional studies classes are usually available every semester and are offered online. IT 7360 is offered every semester, while ELMT 7150 and 8390 are available on a less frequent schedule.

### 2. *I took the GRE a number of years ago. Do I have to take it again?*

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required by all graduate programs in Georgia State’s College of Education.

The company that administers the Graduate Record Exam will only certify scores for five years. If it has been longer than five years since you took the exam you must retake it and request that the scores be sent to the Office of Academic Assistance with your application materials.

For admission at the masters level a minimum GRE score of 800 (combined verbal and quantitative scores) is required. This threshold applies to MLM degree candidates, add-on certification students and non-degree students seeking certification.

### 3. *Will the MLM degree allow me to work in public, corporate or academic libraries?*

No. The MLM degree is designed to train you for work in a PreK-12 setting in public or independent schools. It is not accepted as the equivalent of the MLS or MLIS, the degrees required for public, corporate or academic librarians.

### 4. *Is your program online?*

Graduates of the Library Media Technology Program at Georgia State repeatedly tell us that the face-to-face nature of LMT classes was the primary reason they initially enrolled in our program

and one of its greatest strengths. Students cite the personal nature of the classes, the critical professional networking opportunities & friendships that are established, and important teachable moments readily addressed as reasons for continuing program delivery in a face-to-face environment. However, those classes that lend themselves readily to online applications and resources (such as ELMT 7130- Selection and Use of Reference Sources) are offered primarily in an online environment.

5. *At what point in the program should I take the GACE? Is there a study guide for this state exam?*

Every class in the Library Media Technology Program is preparing you to succeed on this test. A student can take the GACE at any time. Generally, it is in your best interest to wait until near the end of the program. Leave plenty of time for the results to be sent to the Office of Academic Assistance. For example, students seeking employment as a media specialist in August will want to take the GACE in the winter or spring.

There is no official study guide for the GACE. Students who listen carefully, take notes, complete required assignments, and participate actively in classes will do well on the exam.

6. *Will the certificate I receive upon completion of the Library Media Technology MLM allow me to be a classroom teacher?*

No. The certification you receive upon completion of the MLM degree is S-5, which does not entitle you to be a classroom teacher. You will, however, qualify for employment in any Georgia public or independent PreK-12 school. Should you anticipate moving to another state, it is wise to check that particular state's professional qualifications. Some require media specialists to have an undergraduate degree in education.

7. *How do I obtain my certificate through the Georgia Professional Standards Commission?*

Once you have completed all the requirements for certification, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) will ask that you provide them with a form entitled "Approved Program Recommendation Form." Some school districts use terminology that suggests you need a separate letter of recommendation from Georgia State to the PSC. This is not the case. All that is required is the PSC's own "Approved Program Recommendation Form." Please note that it is the *student's responsibility* to apply for certification. Georgia State University does not make the application on anyone's behalf.

1. Download the form from the PSC website.
2. Complete the top part of the form and then submit it to the Office of Academic Assistance on the 3rd floor of the College of Education Building. They will verify that you have completed all program requirements, complete the form and return it to you. (**Do not** send this form to the LMT Faculty. We are not authorized to complete it.)
3. Submit it to the PSC with the "Application for Certification" form and any other necessary documents as specified on the application.

Please note that if you have completed all your requirements for certification, but will not graduate until a later semester, you can still go ahead and apply for certification. However, when you send the "Approved Program Recommendation Form" to the OAA, you must *include a note saying that*

*you want to apply for early certification.* The OAA will then place a note on your transcript, acknowledging that you have completed all program requirements.

Office of Academic Assistance  
Georgia State University  
P.O. Box 3977  
Atlanta, GA 30302-3977

8. *Is there a specific sequence of courses to be taken for the MLM degree?*

New students are admitted to the Library Media Technology Program during spring, summer and fall semesters. While there is no one sequence of courses to be taken, it is preferable to take some courses earlier in the program than others.

We recommend you take ELMT 7140 (Cataloging), ELMT 7130 (Reference) and ELMT 7020 (Selection) early in your program, as well as your Professional Studies courses - EPY 7080 (Learners and Learning), EPSF course (Social Foundations) and EPRS (Educational Research.) You may want to take ELMT 7410 (Administration), and ELMT 7370 (Collaboration) towards the end of your program. ELMT 7660 (Internship in Library Media Technology) should be your final class in the LMT program.

Please note that while you may elect to take courses in any order, your performance in the recommended later courses may be seriously impaired if you have not completed the recommended earlier courses.

9. *When and how often do courses meet?*

During the fall and spring semesters, classes meet in the evenings at either 4:30 p.m. or 7:15 p.m. Each class is 2 1/2 hours long and meets once a week. During the short summer semester classes meet during the day for 3 hours and 10 minutes, usually twice a week, for six weeks.

We try to offer some back to back courses (i.e. a course at 4:30 followed by one at 7:15) each semester. At the Alpharetta center we try to schedule these on Tuesday nights during fall and spring, and Downtown on Wednesday nights. Summer classes are more variable.

Generally, masters-level classes are offered twice a year - once downtown and once in Alpharetta. The professional studies classes are usually available every semester. IT 7360 is offered every semester, while ELMT 7150 and ELMT 8390 are offered less frequently.

10. *How much will it cost to get my Master of Library Media degree?*

There are a number of sources for you to consult should you require financial aid. Our program does not directly offer any financial aid. However, you may find out information for other sources of aid by consulting the GSU Financial Aid website ([http://www.gsu.edu/es/financial\\_aid.html](http://www.gsu.edu/es/financial_aid.html)) or by contacting the financial aid department at GSU ([financialaid@langate.gsu.edu](mailto:financialaid@langate.gsu.edu) or 404-413-2400). Information on tuition and fees: [http://www.gsu.edu/tuition\\_fees.html](http://www.gsu.edu/tuition_fees.html).

Application deadlines for MLM, Add-on and Non-Degree Students:

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
<b>May 1</b>	<b>October 1</b>	<b>March 1</b>