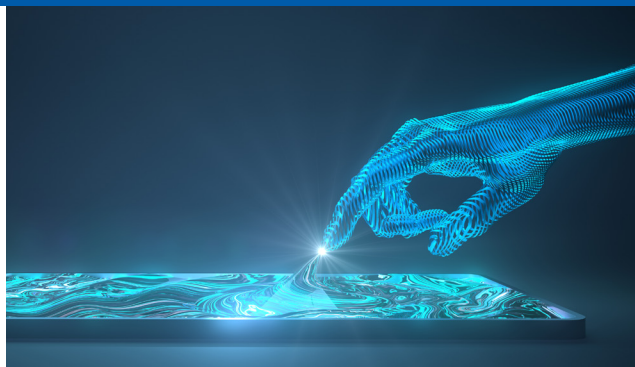


DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SCIENCE

Learn more:

www.up.ac.za/information-science



KEY RESEARCH IMPACT

EBIT's Department of Information Science is concerned with how information is generated, organised, circulated and used in society. In today's knowledge economy and Fourth Industrial Revolution, information is a currency that is shared in written, audio and visual form, and in print and digital formats. The Department conducts research in the fields of information science, multimedia and publishing.

Research opportunities

- Knowledge management and competitive intelligence
- Information processes
- Meta-context of information
- Book and publishing studies
- Information ethics
- Virtual reality (VR)/augmented reality (AR) and user interaction, user experience and game studies

RESEARCH PRIDE

Research chairs and entities

- Exxaro Chair in XR Technology
- African Centre of Excellence in Information Ethics

Exceptional research facilities

• *Virtual Reality and Interaction (VRI) Laboratory*

The state-of-the-art VRI Laboratory is set to facilitate new opportunities in the field of multimedia studies where students can engage in immersive research in several fields related to extended reality technology (XR), including user experience design and interaction design in VR and AR. With VR quickly becoming part of the mainstream technologies available for both business and entertainment, industry players have become increasingly interested in leveraging this cutting-edge technology. The VRI Laboratory provides access to commercial XR equipment and allows researchers the freedom to push the boundaries of the current knowledge and uses of XR to develop exciting ways of utilising this technology to surpass current solutions to real-world challenges.

South African National Research Foundation (NRF)-rated researchers

- Prof Ina Fourie (B2 NRF-rating)
- Prof Beth le Roux (B2 NRF-rating)
- Prof Marlene Holmner (C2 NRF-rating)

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ACCOLADES FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

The Department's lecturers are involved in a variety of industry bodies and associations, and this close association keeps the programmes relevant. These include the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T; Board of Directors and Executive), scholarly committees such as Information Seeking in Context (ISIC) and Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE). Its academics have also had a direct impact on policy-making, serving on the Department of Arts and Culture's Library and Information Services Transformation Charter and the National Council of Library and Information Services (NCLIS). The Publishing Studies team conducts industry-related research on behalf of the Publishers' Association of South Africa (PASA) and the South African Booksellers' Association (SABA), and their courses are endorsed by PASA. They also work with the Association of Publishing Educators, based in the UK.

CAREER PATHWAYS

Postgraduate degree programmes offered by the Department enable graduates to elevate their knowledge of their fields of specialisation in order to excel in their careers. Candidates who are interested in pursuing an academic career will be joining a cohort of productive researchers. Staff members of the Department collaborate with researchers in a number of countries in Europe (e.g. Sweden), the UK, the USA, Israel and Australia, and have served on the boards of a number of scholarly associations and academic journals. In industry, information science graduates typically function as information managers, information specialists, information consultants, information brokers and systems specialists. Multimedia graduates acquire the theoretical and technical know-how to build information products that use a variety of media and delivery systems. They can work in industries such as telecommunications, broadcasting, publishing and internet content provision, or at any institution that communicates information in multimedia. Publishing graduates typically find employment opportunities in copy-editing and proofreading, design and typesetting, market research, copyright negotiations, book marketing and promotion, and bookselling or distribution.

POSTGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMMES (click on each programme to learn more)

Honours programmes

The honours programmes enable students to specialise in their chosen field of study, and enhance their skills by studying at a more advanced level.

BISHons Information Science ■ BISHons Multimedia ■ BISHons Publishing

Master's programmes

The master's programmes are research-based, enabling students to undertake focused research on a topic that is relevant to both their working environment and to further scholarship. The Department also offers a specialised two-year coursework degree in information technology (MIT ICT degree) aimed at library and information science professionals at middle management level.

MIS Information Science ■ MIS Library Science ■ MIS Multimedia ■ MIS Publishing

MIT ICT Information Science ■ MIT ICT Management

Doctoral programmes

The doctoral programmes enable students to extend the frontiers of knowledge in a fast-changing field of study.

PhD Information Science ■ PhD Library Science ■ PhD Publishing