THE UNIVERSITY

Established in 1890, UNT is one of the nation’s largest public research universities with 38,000 students. Ranked a Tier One research university by the Carnegie Classification, UNT is a catalyst for creativity — fueling progress, innovation and entrepreneurship for the North Texas region and beyond. UNT’s programs are internationally recognized, with research and scholarship spanning all disciplines.

- We offer 86 master’s and 38 doctoral degree programs.
- We have 37 research centers and institutes.
- Our many graduate programs are rated among the state’s and nation’s best.
- Our median graduate class size is eight students.
- Our leading researchers, renowned faculty and graduate students work together on projects that advance knowledge and push boundaries.
- Our library system includes a nationally recognized digital program that offers millions of pages of historic and unique content.

UNT is located in Denton, named the Best College Town in Texas. Learn more about UNT at unt.edu.

Guillermo Oyarce, Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of North Texas. Information retrieval systems; feature selection; human-computer interaction: direct, manipulation in IR and visualization.

Barbara Schultz-Jones, Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of North Texas. Collaboration networks; social networks; school library automation; information literacy in K-12 schools.

Daniella Smith, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Florida State University. Leadership development; diversity; technology in schools; school libraries; online learning.

Maurice Wheeler, Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh. Management; leadership; organizational culture; diversity; public libraries.

Oksana Zavalina, Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of Illinois. Information organization, access and retrieval; metadata, cataloging and classification; digital repositories; use of information systems.
The University of North Texas’ Information Science Ph.D. program responds to the varied and ever-changing needs of the information age. The college is designated as an iSchool, a consortium of internationally recognized information schools.

Graduate opportunities
We have one of the nation’s largest Ph.D. programs in the Information Science discipline, and it is fully interdisciplinary. This collaboration allows you to develop a degree plan tailored to your individual interests with a variety of courses in different academic units, such as:

- Computer science and engineering
- Geography
- Information technology and decision sciences
- Learning technologies
- Linguistics
- Merchandising and hospitality management

Students can choose from two doctoral program options: 60 credit hours for students with a master’s degree in any discipline, and 72 credit hours for students without a master’s degree.

The program offers a general program of study or a concentration option. Available concentrations include:

- Consumer behavior and experience management
- Cybersecurity
- Data science
- Geospatial information systems
- Health informatics
- Journalism
- Linguistics

Outstanding student support
You can meet other students and professionals in our student organizations or through online networking opportunities. The UNT student chapter of the Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) provides collaborative opportunities that allow for students’ professional and academic growth.

For international students, evidence of English language proficiency — a satisfactory TOEFL score or successful completion of the UNT Intensive English Language Institute — is required.

More information about admission requirements is available at informationscience.unt.edu/phd-program-admissions.

Degree requirements for a general program of study

- 21 credit hours in core areas (information science core and research core)
- 18 credit hours in two areas of emphasis
- 9 credit hours of electives for students with a master’s degree; 21 credit hours of electives for students without a master’s degree
- Minimum of 12 credit hours of dissertation research

Degree requirements for a concentration program of study

- 21 credit hours in core areas (information science core and research core)
- 27 credit hours in a concentration core and electives for students with a master’s degree; 39 credit hours in a concentration core and electives for students without a master’s degree
- Minimum of 12 credit hours of dissertation research

You must pass a comprehensive qualifying exam with written and oral components before you begin your dissertation research.

Financial assistance
The department offers several financial awards to help you pursue your graduate degree. These include competitive scholarships, grants and teaching and research assistantships. The graduate school and UNT Libraries also provide graduate fellowships, assistantships and scholarships.

Graduate faculty and research areas

Jeff Allen, Regents Professor; Ph.D., Penn State University. Knowledge acquisition; knowledge management; workforce development and innovation.

Yvonne Chandia, Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of Michigan. Legal information services and research; internet resources and services; law librarianship; LIS education.

Hsia-Ching Chang, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., University at Albany. Adoption/diffusion of social media; business analytics; cloud computing security; knowledge/science mapping; information architecture.

Jiangping Chen, Professor; Ph.D., Syracuse University. Intelligent information access; digital libraries; natural language processing; information systems design and analysis.

Ana Cleveland, Regents Professor; Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University. Medical informatics; information storage and retrieval; indexing and abstracting.

Yunfei Du, Professor and Interim Department Chair; Ph.D., University of North Texas. Academic libraries; international librarianship; learning styles; e-learning.

Suliman Hawamdeh, Professor; Ph.D., University of Sheffield. Digital information management; knowledge management; information organization and retrieval; organizational learning and learning organization.

Jeonghyun Kim, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Rutgers University. Digital curation and data management; information behavior and interaction; LIS education.

John Marino, Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of Washington. Information behavior context; the Big Information problem-solving process; digital learning environments.

Shawne Miksa, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Florida State University. Organization, control and access to information entities; classification research and theory; information retrieval; bibliometrics; scholarly communication.

Brian O’Connor, Professor; Ph.D., University of California Berkeley. Image document access; information seeking behavior; browsing studies; representation of questions and documents.