

## **Advanced Technology Elective Policy**

### **Current Advanced Technology elective options:**

INFO 6270 Introduction to Data Science  
INFO 6513 Business Analytics and Data Visualization  
INFO 6620 Web Design & Architecture  
INFO 6681 Geospatial Information Management  
INFO 6840 Content Management Systems

At any one time within an academic year, no fewer than three courses and no more than five courses will be identified as Advanced Technology (AT) elective options within the MLIS Program.

### **Proposed rule-based policy for ad hoc Advanced Technology Credit:**

Not all classes that pertain to technology are eligible for Advanced Technology elective credit. In order for a class to fulfill the AT elective requirement, it must:

- Involve practical, hands-on knowledge, including a significant proportion of hands-on work with technology
- Build on core courses for the MLIS degree
- Focus on technologies that are not commonly mastered by individuals in the information professions
- Include student assessment based on their use of the technology

### **Proposed method for removing courses from AT consideration**

For the purposes of this assessment, “advanced technology” is defined as a technology that is not commonly mastered by individuals in the information professions. As technology evolves and our definition of what is “advanced” changes, classes that once fulfilled the AT elective credit requirement may no longer do so. Classes will be removed from AT credit consideration when their content is deemed insufficiently advanced. The Technology area group will assess current AT offerings on an annual basis, and make suggestions for additions or deletions to the SIM director and MLIS Program Coordinator.

For example: At one point, use of a word processing software suite would have been considered uncommon in the information professions. At the dawn of the word processing era, a course in this area would potentially be eligible for AT credit under the rule proposed above. After knowledge and mastery of word processing software became more commonplace, AT credit would no longer be suitable for a word processing course.