The mission of the School of Information at San Jose State University is to educate information professionals who excel in virtual and physical environments and who contribute to the well-being of our global communities.

Our School’s strategic plan articulates our goals, including our emphasis on curricular quality; our investment in supporting our faculty’s teaching, service, and research; and our commitment to provide a technology-rich, engaging online learning environment that involves global opportunities.

The School of Information shares detailed information about our assessment processes, including performance data which is posted on our public website. In 2014, the School of Information received the Online Learning Consortium’s Outstanding Online Program Award for its MLIS program. The School is also a member of Quality Matters (QM); is fully accredited by the American Library Association (ALA) and by the Council for Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP). San Jose State University is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

The School of Information offers all of its degrees and certificates online. These include a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS), which is fully accredited by the American Library Association, as well as a Master’s degree in Archives and Records Administration (MARA). A Teacher Librarian Services Credential program is also available as a second teaching credential for school librarians (accredited by CAEP).

Several online specialized certificate programs are also offered, including a Certificate in Big Data for individuals pursuing careers in the data science field, and an Advanced Certificate in Strategic Management of Digital Assets and Services for people looking to gain practical skills needed to manage the increasing variety of digital information. For those who already hold a master’s degree, the school offers a Post-Master’s Certificate in Library and Information Science, designed for working professionals who want to stay current with emerging trends.

Through a partnership with Queensland University of Technology, one of Australia’s top research institutions, the school’s doctoral students can earn a PhD.

The School of Information is part of the San Jose State University Cybersecurity and Big Data Initiative.

The School of Information is located within the College of Applied Sciences and Arts (CASA). The Director reports to the Dean of the College and is a member of both the College Executive Council and the University Council of Chairs and Directors. The Director has complete responsibility for running all the degrees and certificate programs; developing the curriculum; and developing and supervising budgets.
Twenty five full-time faculty and more than 80 part-time faculty teach at the School, enabling us to offer a broad curriculum. Our fully online environment enables us to recruit highly qualified faculty, regardless of where they live.

The School has 1800 graduate students all taking their classes within our online environment. Our students are a diverse group of individuals in terms of where they live, their ages, and their ethnic diversity. For example, one-third of our students live outside California, and 35% of our Spring 2014 graduates reported an ethnicity other than White.

Throughout their coursework, students learn to serve diverse communities. The School also prepares our students for the myriad ways technology is impacting the future of our field. In every class, technology is both an instructional tool and a topic of examination. The School offers a wide range of career pathways and electives.

The Center for Information Research and Innovation (CIRI) at the School fosters research in library and information science and beyond. It aims at generating exemplary new practices and innovative products to benefit a global audience. It showcases faculty and student research and innovative practice, develops research-based and innovative products for the profession/field, fosters grant development, and enhances partnerships with individuals across campus, the continent and the world, as well as with institutions and organizations.