

Electronic Records in the Archival Curriculum

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Abstract: Electronic records management (ERM) has been incorporated into the archival curriculum in North America for the past two decades. From 1993 to 2013, the number of ERM courses offered in archival programs has increased from 2 to 15. The proposed presentation reports the findings of a recently completed study that provides a systematic analysis of the course content of electronic records management currently offered in archival education programs in North America. The study covers three major research questions: What are the major course areas offered in archival programs that are directly relating to electronic records? What topics are covered in ERM courses and how are they distributed among the programs? What are the impacts of course area combinations on choices of ERM course topics? Through the analysis of course areas relating to electronic records and weekly topics covered in ERM courses, the study helps to identify the scope of the content coverage of ERM courses in relation to other courses in the archival curriculum.

About the author:

Jane Zhang is an assistant professor at the Department of Library and Information Science, the Catholic University of America. She holds a PhD in Library and Information Studies with archival concentration from Simmons College, Boston, and a joint Master of Archival Studies and Library and Information Studies from the University of British Columbia, Canada. Her teaching and research areas cover records and recordkeeping, archival theory and practice, electronic records and digital archives. Jane previously worked at the Harvard University Archives and the University of Calgary Archives.