

Working together to build the future

CONTENTdm in the LIS Classroom

For over 40 years, OCLC has worked together with library leaders to combine technology with cooperation to create solutions for libraries. One of the many initiatives that this has resulted in is the *CONTENTdm in the LIS Classroom* program, which provides the CONTENTdm software at no cost to LIS and certificate programs.

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A distinct advantage

More than 2,000 libraries, museums, archives and other cultural heritage organizations worldwide use the CONTENTdm® Digital Collection Management Software. With so many organizations using CONTENTdm today to create and manage digital collections, many LIS graduates report that hands-on experience with CONTENTdm is an important factor that influences the hiring decision.

The latest digital asset management software at no cost

Building and managing digital collections requires a practical understanding of database design, digitization and born-digital file formats, metadata standards, and end-user purposes and preferences. To help students learn more about digital asset management and available software solutions, we provide participating programs with access to the CONTENTdm software—hosted at OCLC at no cost.

The *CONTENTdm in the LIS Classroom* program includes:

- A hosted CONTENTdm server for each instructor, including webmaster and user accounts
- Storage for up to 300 digital collections
- CONTENTdm Project Clients, for up to 50 desktops
- Software maintenance and upgrades

Also included is the CONTENTdm Hosting Services, where OCLC staff host and manage your CONTENTdm installation for your university, rather than you allocating the staff and resources needed to run it on your own local server. OCLC offers all of the necessary operational support related to CONTENTdm hardware and software.

Additionally, we offer the following CONTENTdm support, materials and training:

- Extensive online documentation, tutorials, help files and case studies
- The “CONTENTdm Basic Use” monthly, two-hour training webinar, which allows for Q&A
- The opportunity to attend regional and national CONTENTdm user group meetings

Program participation

Participation in the program continues to grow with over 30 schools now using CONTENTdm and several hundred students learning how to use the software each year.

LIS courses incorporating CONTENTdm vary from a required introduction to information technologies to a capstone internship. Instructional uses of CONTENTdm range from using the software to learn metadata concepts and standards, to hands-on sessions building digital collections for term-long projects.

“The ability to present CONTENTdm as a working system has strengthened our curriculum significantly and in ways that we could otherwise not provide. Offering these resources to LIS programs is of critical importance, and I hope that OCLC will maintain, and perhaps even expand, its commitment in this area. I can't imagine a better deal!”

—Christinger Tomer, University of Pittsburgh



A unique teaching vehicle

CONTENTdm offers a unique teaching vehicle for examining many of the latest technologies, tools, standards and contemporary issues that today's libraries and other cultural heritage organizations frequently have to consider and manage. Some of these include:

- Digitization, including technical standards, specification options and best practices
- Archives management, including accession, deaccession and digital archives
- Collection development and management, including reprint services
- U.S. copyright law and rights management
- Computer security issues, including collection- and item-access management
- User-interface customization, including localization concepts and best practices
- Database design, including user-requirements analysis
- Dublin Core, VRA Core, MARC and other metadata standards
- Controlled vocabularies
- Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH)


Representative course titles

Titles of past and present CONTENTdm-supported LIS courses reflect the scope and flexibility of CONTENTdm, including:

- *Organizing Information*
- *Information Technologies*
- *Metadata for Information Professionals*
- *Advanced Cataloging*
- *Digital Libraries*
- *Digitization & Digital Preservation*
- *Records Management*
- *Access Systems for Archival Materials*

How to get started with CONTENTdm

If you are interested in participating in the *CONTENTdm in the LIS Classroom* program, please send an e-mail to contentdm@oclc.org

<p>"Last term was the first I used CONTENTdm in my class as a development tool for collection development projects. My students found it quite useful and enjoyed working on their collections using its different features. I plan to keep using CONTENTdm in my classes for the foreseeable future."</p> <p>—Haidar Moukdad, Dalhousie University</p>	
<p>"Andre [an LIS student] was involved in a CONTENTdm implementation for the management of master's papers submitted to the Department of City and Regional Planning. What is very exciting about this to me is that the work was initiated in the workplace, and Andre was able to bring it to class and demonstrate real, front-line work activities related to CONTENTdm."</p> <p>—Jane Greenberg, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill</p>	