FOUNDATIONS OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

(A Textbook for Multidisciplinary, Minor, and Major Courses in Library and Information Science at Degree Levels)



Badan Barman Kankana Baishya

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Guwahati, Assam, India
2023

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Kankana Baishya

Badan Barman

Foundations of Library and Information Science

Badan Barman

Assistant Professor

Department of Library and Information Science
Gauhati University
Guwahati-781014, Assam, India

Kankana Baishya

Assistant Librarian
Central Library
National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam
Guwahati-781031, Assam, India

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Dedication



Late Nityananda Baishya 14/01/1950 – 04/02/2008



Late Joykanta Barman 31/12/1940 - 26/01/2022

I am grateful to the almighty that I got you as my father. Now, life is completely different without you.

Kankana Baishya

Badan Barman

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This book would not have taken shape without all of the input and insight from Dr. Gajendra Ballav Devchoudhury, Librarian, North Gauhati College.

The students at the Department of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University, are the pillars of this book. Our everyday interaction with them as part of their course curriculum has contributed insights and input, helping us to develop the contents further. It is their need that prompted us to update the contents, a part of which forms the basis of this book.

This book definitely would not have seen the light of day without the love and support of our family members, who created a congenial atmosphere for us to be able to complete a work of this nature. Our sincere thanks go to Smt. Joymati Barman (mother of Dr. Badan Barman) and Smt. Suchitra Baishya (mother of Dr. Kankana Baishya) and our little and cute daughter, Miss. Sristishreya Barman.

Badan Barman Kankana Baishya

Preface

To revamp all aspects of India's education system and also to address the unfinished agendas of the National Policy on Education of 1986, modified in 1992 (NPE 1986/92), the "National Education Policy-2020" (NEP-2020) was brought out by the "Ministry of Human Resource Development" (MHRD), the Government of India, on July 29, 2020. The NEP-2020 previously did not have anything on Library and Information Science education. However, as per the "Curriculum and Credit Framework for Under graduate Programme" of UGC, the course will consist of five parts, i.e., disciplinary / interdisciplinary majors; disciplinary / interdisciplinary minors; multidisciplinary (MD), ability enhancement courses (AEC) and skills enhancement courses (SEC). The multidisciplinary course will consist of 3 introductory-level courses with a total of 9 credits either from anyone of the five disciplines, i.e., natural and physical sciences; mathematics, statistics, and computer applications; library, information, and media sciences; commerce and management; and humanities and social sciences (UGC, 2022, p. 21, 26). However, "students are not allowed to choose or repeat courses already undergone at the higher secondary level (12th class) in the proposed major and minor stream". Introduction of library and information science under multidisciplinary for all the learners in semesters 1, 2, and 3 is a push-up step for the entire subject of Library and Informatino Science itself. It will enhance the image of librarians working in academic institutes as teachers instead of previously holding a slightly narrow view of librarians as academicians.

Again, as per the "Curriculum and Credit Framework for Under graduate Programme" of UGC, a student can change the major within the broad discipline of natural and physical sciences; mathematical, statistics, and computational sciences; library, information and media sciences, commerce and management; and humanities and social sciences at the end of the first year (p. 26). This clearly indicates the need to include a major (honours) and minor (pass) course in the subject of library and information science at the undergraduate level, in line with other subjects.

The LIS education programme, which was previously not included in the subject in Classes 11 and 12, did not have a tradition of a bachelor's degree in line with other subjects (as it only had a 1-year bachelor in comparison to others 3-year bachelor degree programme) has now started to hold its roots firm and in line with the other subjects, thus paving the way for a new era of LIS education in India.

As per NEP-2020, Gauhati University stated in the year 2023 to offer Library and Information Science at the undergraduate (degree) level as a major (honours), minor (pass), and multidisciplinary course. This book is targeted at all the students who opted for these courses at the college and university levels.

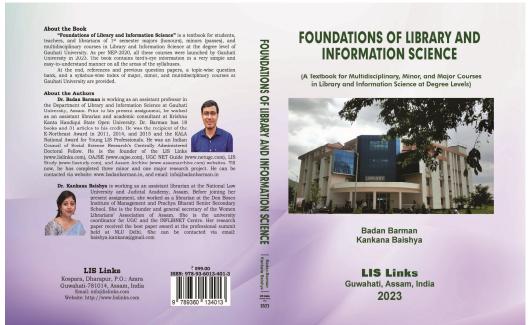
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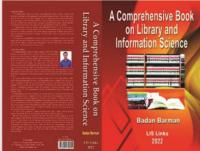
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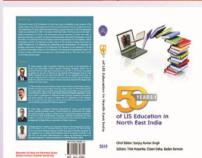
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About the Book

"Foundations of Library and Information Science" is a textbook for students, teachers, and librarians of 1st semester majors (honours), minors (passes), and multidisciplinary courses in Library and Information Science at the degree level of Gauhati University. As per NEP-2020, all these courses were launched by Gauhati University in 2023. The book contains bird's-eye information in a very simple and easy-to-understand manner on all the areas of the syllabuses.

At the end, references and previous question papers, a topic-wise question bank, and a syllabus-wise index of major, minor, and multidisciplinary courses at Gauhati University are provided.

About the Authors

Dr. Badan Barman is working as an assistant professor in the Department of Library and Information Science at Gauhati University, Assam. Prior to his present assignment, he worked as an assistant librarian and academic consultant at Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University. Dr. Barman has 18 books and 31 articles to his credit. He was the recipient of the E-Northeast Award in 2011, 2014, and 2015 and the KALA National Award for Young LIS Professionals. He was an Indian Council of Social Science Research's Centrally Administered Doctoral Fellow. He is the founder of the LIS Links



(www.lislinks.com), OAJSE (www.oajse.com), UGC NET Guide (www.netugc.com), LIS Study (www.lisstudy.com), and Assam Archive (www.assamarchive.com) websites. Till now, he has completed three minor and one major research project. He can be contacted via website: www.badanbarman.in, and email: info@badanbarman.in

Dr. Kankana Baishya is working as an assistant librarian at the National Law



University and Judicial Academy, Assam. Before joining her present assignment, she worked as a librarian at the Don Bosco Institute of Management and Prachya Bharati Senior Secondary School. She is the founder and general secretary of the Women Librarians' Association of Assam. She is the university coordinator for UGC and the INFLIBNET Centre. Her research paper received the best paper award at the professional summit held at NLU Delhi. She can be contacted via email: baishya.kankana@gmail.com

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