Advances in Data Curation Education

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Overall structure

1. Background
2. Formal graduate education
3. Campus-based education resources
4. Informal education
My Background

- Master’s and PhD from UCLA Department of Information Studies
- Teaching at Master’s programs in Library & Information Science (LIS)
  - University of Denver, “Data Curation”, 2015, 2016, 2021
  - University of Washington, “Data Curation - Fundamentals”, 2023
- Working with students
  - Advisor for ~20 Master’s practicum/internship projects
  - Five different universities
  - Participant in two IMLS-funded data curation programs
“There is no single occupational category for digital curators and no precise mapping between the knowledge and skills needed for digital curation and existing professions, careers, or job titles.”

“Conclusion 3.1: Jobs involving digital curation exist along a continuum, from those for which almost all tasks focus on digital curation to those for which digital curation tasks arise occasionally in a job that is embedded in some other domain.”

“Conclusion 4.2: The knowledge and skills required of those engaged in digital curation are dynamic and highly interdisciplinary. They include an integrated understanding of computing and information science, librarianship, archival practice, and the disciplines and domains generating and using data.”
Data Curation Skill Spectrum

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-08425-1_26

OA copy: http://n2t.net/ark:/85065/d7bc40z3
Formal Graduate Education

- Data curation courses exist widely within Library and Information Science (LIS) programs
- Degree and certificate specializations are less common, but when they exist, they are offered by LIS programs
- Many LIS courses and specializations started in 2005-2015
- Significant corpus of research on digital/data curation education


Campus-Based Education and Training

Many university libraries provide data curation services and/or training:

- One-on-one consultations
- For-credit courses
- In-class seminars
- Training workshops (e.g. carpentries)

https://www.colorado.edu/crdds/whatwedo
Informal Education

Data Management Training Clearinghouse (DMTC) is a registry for online learning resources focusing on data skills and capacity building for research data management, data stewardship and data education.

https://dmtclearinghouse.esipfed.org/home
Summary

● Broad interest in training
● Narrow scope of formal education - LIS programs are main providers
● Many resources available for informal and self-driven trainings
● Questions
  ○ Who is the focus of education? What is the goal?
  ○ Grow professional base? Build specific skills?