



Library Liaison, Social Sciences (**Lib/Arch II – Research & Learning**)
****Internal Posting****

The MIT Libraries seek a collaborative and dynamic professional to join our team as Library Liaison for Social Sciences. This position provides library support for the MIT departments, labs, centers, and institutes (DLCIs) in political science and other social science areas as assigned and provides services to researchers in organizing and documenting social science data. This librarian will join the Research and Learning Directorate, reporting to the Interim Head, Liaison, Instruction and Reference Services (LIRS).

MIT researchers are pioneering innovative, data-intensive and computational approaches to global challenges such as AI and climate change, and are actively fostering open science and data sharing, international collaborations, and ethical technology design and deployment. MIT's social science departments and centers contribute to these grand challenges through interdisciplinary research on topics such as the impact of climate on cities, AI and its use, and mis- and disinformation. MIT Libraries actively support researchers who collaborate globally, use data-intensive methods to create new knowledge, and advance paradigm shifts in research toward open access and open science.

The Library Liaison for the Social Sciences will engage in research support, teaching and enrichment across campus, collaborating with research teams, faculty, postdocs and students. The incoming librarian will work jointly with MIT social science and management librarians as well as members of the Data and Specialized Services (DSS) department and will participate in or lead service and infrastructure development projects. Supporting MIT's vibrant research and academic community affords a talented and motivated individual the opportunity to partner with us in identifying and defining new approaches to our service model and the future of the scholarly information ecosystem, while advancing the MIT Libraries mission as informed by the MIT Libraries Enduring Vision.

As a commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility, and social justice are essential values within the Libraries and the Institute, the incoming Library Liaison must apply a culturally competent lens to this vital position within our organization.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Library Liaison for the Social Sciences, working with talented and engaged colleagues from LIRS and DSS, to coordinate, shape, and deliver services, will:

- Serve as the Libraries' expert on the research, learning culture, and learning practices related to political science and other assigned subject areas, and systematically share that knowledge across the organization to optimize the impact of library expertise and services.
- Develop a program of outreach by building relationships and partnerships with faculty and researchers to facilitate the success of varied research endeavors.
- Offer research support throughout the entire research cycle from discovery to management of information and data to the development, dissemination, and stewardship of research products.
- With faculty and other colleagues, design creative instruction and learning experiences that address research practice, information and data management, and key issues such as Open Science and Open Data.
- Develop library collections in relevant disciplines and support library collections initiatives such as Open Access and Open Data. Help to shape the functionality of platforms through which information is made available.
- Participate as a member of LIRS Social Sciences and Management Community of Practice, and as a contributor to the DSS department.
- Provide services and support to researchers in organizing and documenting social science data throughout the research lifecycle, leading to data that can be shared and reused effectively (e.g., FAIR).
- Help students understand the social consequences of how data and information are used, created, and shared.
- Engage in systematic, ongoing learning activities to enhance skills and knowledge of trends in the social sciences and research data.
- Participate in or lead project teams and committees at department or Libraries' level, and foster inclusion and team success by using best practice tools and techniques.
- Contributes to professional discourse to advance knowledge, contribute to collaborative projects or otherwise strengthen the educational and social impact of academic librarianship to advance the enduring vision of MIT Libraries.

In collaboration with colleagues from Data and Specialized Services:

- Provides services and support to researchers in organizing and documenting social science data throughout the research lifecycle, leading to data that can be shared and reused effectively (e.g., FAIR).
- Guides researchers to find and manage information and data, and to critically evaluate and use research tools, platforms, and infrastructure.

Other Work

- Participates in or lead project teams and committees at department or Libraries' level and fosters inclusion and team success by using best practice tools and techniques.
- Contributes to professional discourse to advance knowledge, contribute to collaborative projects or otherwise strengthen the educational and social impact of academic librarianship to advance the enduring vision of MIT Libraries.

QUALIFICATIONS

REQUIRED:

- An MLS/MLIS or an advanced degree in a social sciences field.
- A minimum of 3 years relevant experience in research support for social sciences.
- Demonstrated knowledge and skills in social science contexts:
 - Experience providing research support and applying outreach strategies to build relationships with researchers and research teams.
 - Experience in teaching and designing learning activities to meet learning outcomes.
 - Knowledge of literature and resources in the social sciences with the ability to select materials for library collections according to campus needs.
 - Familiarity with or capacity to learn about and support interdisciplinary needs of social science researchers.
 - Familiarity with trends in the scholarly and research information ecosystem for social sciences, including data repositories and open-source and open-science tools.
 - Experience working with and managing data sets in the social sciences, and familiarity with tools used for cleaning data, version control, documentation, and analysis.
- Skills in working independently, taking initiative, and managing competing priorities.
- Strong collaborative, organizational and communication skills across multiple contexts, such as working with teams, leading and participating in meetings, giving reports and presentations, and developing proposals with numerous, diverse stakeholders.
- Strong commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and experience with applying those principles to provision of services.

PREFERRED:

- An MLS/MLIS and a relevant degree in the social sciences.
- Experience working with data sets, statistical analysis software, R, python and other data analysis tools and programs.
- Familiarity with research trends and with ethical, legal, and policy issues in social sciences.
- Familiarity with tools and protocols for reproducible research and data analysis.
- Experience with a range of current trends in teaching such as experiential or problem-based learning.
- Experience with practices and tools that support effective collaboration such as project management, communicating with stakeholders, and leading or launching teams.

HOURS AND LOCATION

This is a full time, exempt, hybrid position. Exact schedule to be arranged with the manager.

We expect the candidate to be stronger in some qualifications listed above than others. Enthusiasm and self-reflection about areas for learning and growth are desirable, as we are committed to helping our future colleague expand their skills and impact, as well as learning from their areas of strength.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

The target hiring range for this position is Range is \$75,000 - \$93,000 plus benefits. Actual salary will depend on qualifications and experience. MIT offers excellent benefits including a choice of health and retirement plans, a dental plan, tuition assistance, and fully subsidized MBTA passes for local bus and subway service. Flexible work arrangements, including flex-time and telecommuting, are considered for positions that meet established criteria. The MIT Libraries is a collegial and supportive working environment and fosters professional growth of staff with management training and travel funding for professional meetings.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Apply online via <http://careers.mit.edu/> Applications must include a cover letter and resume. Priority will be given to applications received by February 24, 2025, position open until filled. MIT is strongly and actively committed to diversity within its community and particularly encourages applications from qualified women and minority candidates. Professionals who enthusiastically embrace the empathy, courage, self-reflection, and respect of a multi-cultural, diverse and inclusive workplace, and who strive to incorporate those values in their work and interactions are encouraged to apply. Please reach out to lib-hr@mit.edu with any questions regarding this role.

ABOUT THE MIT LIBRARIES

The MIT Libraries support teaching, learning, and research across the Institute, with millions of resources, deep expertise, and five campus locations where our community consumes and creates knowledge. Our organization is on an exciting journey of transformation, pursuing a digital-first model for research libraries and prioritizing an open scholarship agenda. We aim to exercise bold leadership in defining a model for research libraries in the future, with innovative spaces like the newly renovated Hayden Library and a focus on supporting data-intensive and computational research and learning.

We strive to do great things, powering the MIT community to solve complex problems in the service of humankind, and each member of our 155-person staff has a role to play in pursuing that vision. We're constantly adapting to the rhythms of a changing world, and we welcome candidates who can help us do that in thoughtful and strategic ways that center our mission and values.

MIT Libraries is an environment that welcomes anybody, any mind — including all genders — and particularly encourages applications from underrepresented minorities, women, disabled applicants, and veterans. Professionals who enthusiastically embrace the empathy, courage, self-reflection, and respect of a multicultural, diverse, and inclusive workplace and who strive to incorporate those values in their work and interactions are encouraged to apply.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Employment is contingent upon the completion of a satisfactory background check.

VISA SPONSORSHIP

This position is not eligible for visa sponsorship. MIT sponsors visas only for certain academic and research positions. MIT does not sponsor the following individuals for employment-based visas or for exchange visitor visas: students; technical, administrative, library, or support staff members; individuals with inadequate funding, insurance, or credentials; or those whose particular visa history precludes sponsorship.