1. My program did not have a general special collections class, nor did it have a rare books class. It had a strong archival program, but the archives classes were really the only special collections classes we had. We need to teach about special collections in ALL LIS programs - public librarians need it as much as academic librarians. Helping the masses means being a steward of cultural resources - whether ephemeral paperbacks that one will weed in a month or unique local and regional history manuscript materials that one preserves indefinitely.

2. see #1, also more information literacy

3. - how to sell ideas to your stakeholders (boss, board, manager, etc.) - how to explain library "stuff" without using library speak (as in a "don't use the jargon" course ... here is how you can communicate with your clients and/or bosses)

4. Budgeting, and people skills--not management-type stuff (dealing with employees), but general skills for interacting with patrons, students, parents, professors, teachers, boards of directors and trustees, architects, and all kinds of other stakeholders in the library.

5. Properly use of internet as a platform for education

6. In our program library administration is only one course...I think we need more preparation on that topic since budgets are a very big problem

7. Web 2.0

8. While my program did have a library automation class, I didn't get to take it. So, I can't comment if it was relevant. I believe that along with a required course in cataloging, one in integrated library systems should also be required. Graduates should have exposure to the major vendors, be able to converse (if only in a broad sense) about the pros vs cons of open source options, and they should have some exposure to automated systems.

9. an internship should be required as a part of any LIS program

10. Marketing More dealing with special collections Language skills

11. more on teaching computer troubleshooting project management

12. Futurism (is that even a word?); non-profit organization (management, PR, etc.); marketing; social media; work-life balance; change-management; presentation skills; grant-writing; psychology (child, teen, adult!!); community-interaction; resiliency; and the changing role of libraries in communities, just to name a few!

13. 1) Real applications of technology in information work, not just quick projects that cover a few different types of tech one may run into "in the
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| 14. | project management more technology hands-on courses  
 Fri, 9/12/08 5:32 PM |
| 15. | A course on how to handle difficult people—whether they are patrons or other library workers.  
 Fri, 9/12/08 8:55 AM |
 Fri, 9/12/08 2:43 AM |
| 17. | Management  
 Thu, 9/11/08 3:19 PM |
| 18. | I know that ILS programs are not technical schools, but I do think that there needs to be more emphasis on technical skills. There were plenty of people on the LS track that were somewhat afraid of technology and they were never really forced to learn technology. Actually, I think a lot of what I've learned as a "librarian" I've learned on the job... not so sure LIS programs are that helpful as they are now.  
 Thu, 9/11/08 1:43 PM |
| 19. | Web coding and scripting: HTML, CSS, Javascript. Possibly also Flash and Java programming. As web-based tools become more ubiquitous, library employees need to be able to modify the appearance and increasingly the behavior of their online products. Library education programs desperately need to offer system administration coursework for those who are interested in managing technology. With the open source Koha ILS, the time has come. Google around for Diane Neal. She is already doing this in her class!  
 Thu, 9/11/08 12:10 PM |
| 20. | how to deal with aggressive or resistent or angry or combative persons (whether fellow employees or patrons)  
 Thu, 9/11/08 11:48 AM |
| 21. | Project management  
 Wed, 9/10/08 8:24 PM |
| 22. | Indexing and Abstracting (class only offered every 2 years then was canceled) Digital Libraries Project Management  
 Wed, 9/10/08 1:23 PM |
| 23. | Social Software, Planning Programs/Outreach, Marketing/Promotional materials  
 Wed, 9/10/08 11:32 AM |
| 24. | Dealing with Difficult People  
 Wed, 9/10/08 11:26 AM |
| 25. | Copyright and ILL practices should be an entire class. Less theoretical and more practical work would be beneficial  
 Wed, 9/10/08 10:57 AM |
| 26. | all things OCLC  
 Wed, 9/10/08 8:23 AM |
| 27. | I would have liked an administration class, something that taught about budgets, schedules, meetings, etc.  
 Tue, 9/9/08 7:34 PM |
| 28. | i graduated in 1991 and got my first job a month later. i think it would have been beneficial to teach some sort of course on keeping up with  
 Tue, 9/9/08 6:09 PM |
technology, or maybe inviting grads back every two years for a refresher. I did keep up through conferences, professional development courses, and by being curious, but there are plenty of co-workers who haven't kept current.

29. I can't think of anything else that I would need to know (I am sure there is something though)

30. Management, management, advocacy. We need good managers and strong advocates.

31. all of the basics were taught, just not often enough, nor necessarily with the emphases where I would put them knowing what I know now.

32. Web design, social networking tools, more detailed management courses

33. Some kind of management. I think it was offered at my school, but not required. Nowadays, you're more likely to be working with paraprofessionals/interns/students, so it helps to have that.

34. My program offered a wide variety of topics. I just couldn't take all that were of interest.

35. More on management (one class is insufficient).

36. library management

37. Community college librarianship

38. More underlying philosophies and less specific skills - the collection development and reference classes were completely worthless and already years out of date, but an underlying philosophy of both would have been useful.


40. real management--how to manage people and processes and situations...not theory; marketing.

41. Futuring - teaching students to look at tomorrow's ideas and how libraries will help bring those ideas to the public

42. a lot more computer science classes and programming skills, and a lot more business classes (marketing, negotiation, organizational behavior, leadership to name a few).

43. I'm one of the few people out there that is happy with my LIS education. Mine was a 2 year degree from Toronto that taught, cataloguing, reference, computer programming, user interface design and management. There were tons of other courses that I could have taken had I specialized in something else (like medical or law librarianship or children's). I have no complaints.

44. Technology for non-techies; more management courses.
45. More info on non 'librarian' library skills eg. cataloguing, shelving, administrative

46. Reflective Practice

47. Library/Web 2.0 - social networking Library advocacy

48. Planning and implementing public programs; project management; human resources (offered sporadically); marketing (offered sporadically) and advocacy

49. Wikis, voicethread, podcasting, epals - all of the Web 2.0 tools.

50. well...i graduated in 94 but I think any program that doesn't have a class on marketing the library in a web 2.0 and 3.0 and beyond world is doing a disservice to its students. Also, when I think about what would be useful today in my worklife, I think a class or seminar on managing the sheer mountain of information we sift through trying to keep up so that we can offer our customers the best service. A class on how to teach would have been great...especially teaching technology. And a class on how to evaluate new technologies for their value in your organization before you invest in them. That's all I have for now; though, i should add that my pre-web education still serves me well today ...I have a friend entering library school this month and I tell her...it's so much on the job training, library school is great for painting the big picture and really giving you and understanding of how information is organized and retrieved...which of course is now changing...but still relevant.

51. The topics that I think are so important weren't taught when I was in school, but I know that they are being taught now - namely web/library 2.0 skills. However, as far as I know, these classes aren't required, and I really feel like they need to be.

52. My program was pretty comprehensive. I think reference curricula should change to be more about the function of reference services and the way people behave, rather than a tools-based course. I would also like to see more of an emphasis on management and administration of libraries. Finally, a deeper focus on information systems and programming would be useful.

53. Management topics. How to teach.

54. I think a course on making connections, networking, building partnerships would be useful. I also would have benefited from a course that would prepare academic librarians for publishing and presenting their own research.

55. Programming. I took stats for librarians, project management for librarians, and databases for librarians, each of which was useful. We should have been taught Python. It would have been useful to have a class devoted to public speaking and to getting published, two skills that many of us rely on in order to get and keep jobs. We had a required class devoted to management. It did not teach us management. Every other class I took was
useful, but that one was a waste of time and money.

56. how to research and conduct useful survey's. My curriculum did not have this that I know of, and it's important. How can librarians except to gain funding or reason why changes should be made without understanding how to create studies that are actually useful?

57. I think my Library School program covered the spectrum pretty well. There were a couple of classes I was interested in taking that had not yet been adapted to the online environment, but they were offered on campus with the plan of eventually offering them online.

58. Web programming

59. How to conduct and evaluate bibliographic instruction at all levels (not just in K-12) Library Service Evaluation

60. Information Literacy

61. How to teach; how to assess what we do (I'm not sure that "research methods" - whatever it's called really does that) How to manage/motivate /train staff.

62. More internet-based instruction. How to bring people into the library. How to connect to those who do not use the library.

63. Scholarly communication, leadership training

64. dealing with difficult customers, management, how to keep up with new technology, all the other stuff you have to do as a librarian (building issues, personnel, emergencies, etc)


66. Assessment of services and resources.


68. More and better management courses. Project management especially. More and better research methods and statistics. These are covered quickly in core courses, but there needs to be more. As libraries move toward using non-degreed staff for almost everything, those holding the MLS are going to be expected to move into the management ranks and take on more and different responsibilities.

69. database design, web development, information architecture as part of core curriculum
70. First, my program did not require any classes beyond the general "Organization of Information" class (the one that sucked eggs) and another 1/2 credit course, at the time, on library ethics. The school offered a wide range of classes, so we could pick and choose what to fill the remaining 8 1/2 credits with. Personally, I'd like to see ourselves as a profession determine what core concepts everyone graduating from an LIS program should know and then structure introductory classes around those concepts, and then require a class on Enquiry Investigation/Reference, Information Structure and Organization/Cataloging, Administration and Management of Information Institutions, and Computer management. Even though I keep hearing classes on management aren't really up to snuff, that's the class I most regret not taking in library school. I took classes in all the other areas :)

71. Linux operating system Open Source software: cost, reality, and ROI Social cataloging Navigating the intersection between public library and local government oversight REAL public technology training (or, Why everything they taught you about Information Literacy training is wrong) Marketing

72. Using / modifying an LIAS system, project management.

73. More emphasis on instruction/training, teaching and learning. A better understanding of teaching and learning in higher education is essential for all academic librarians, not just instruction librarians.

74. I think there should have been more emphasis on library instruction and teaching, at least for those interested in academic librarianship. The majority of my day-to-day library work is related to instruction and I'm basically going on my instinct. I would have appreciated more courses on teaching theory and assessment; some required "student teaching" in an actual library would have been beneficial.

75. Less theory, more lectures, speakers who actually work in libraries, courses on latest technology, software programs

76. Web Design and Usability; Public Speaking and Instructional Presentating; Budgeting - Fiscal Managment; Issues in Information Technology

77. Program Planning, even more advanced Reference courses, more IT classes

78. Decent cataloging courses Basic web coding (only had really advanced web design) Systems --we had NOTHING Exposure to ILSs Better structured internships Library Instruction Adult collection development

79. My program had a management class that did nothing to prepare me for things like the generation gap I'm encountering between me & my coworkers (I am the same age as many of their children), or how to negotiate a salary.

80. Much more emphasis on front line public librarianship. How to work amidst diverse cultures, "problem" patrons, reference interviews, communication
81. Dealing with conflict; Dealing with stubborn and hard-headed directors; Dealing with staff issues; Dealing with a non-productive library board; basically how to deal with people in a library setting; how to work with different systems (library programs)  

82. It's not that the topics aren't covered or taught, it's HOW they are. Very little practical or useful information. Or else topics are glossed over and vaguely mentioned. Frankly, I think that the soft skills, the interpersonal stuff and customer service, are such important facets to the profession and yet are the hardest to instill (because you kind of have to teach people to change their personalities), that they are the most important and yet are totally overlooked. Other hard-skill-type topics (reference, readers' advisory, collection development, program planning, working with children, instruction, working with budgets, etc.) are kind of taught. As I said, just not very well.

83. The technology-rich class covered a lot of Web2.0 and open source technologies. It wasn't required, but I personally think it should be mandatory for all library science students. In addition to Web2.0 topics there should be an emphasis on issues pertaining to copyright and intellectual freedom.

84. -Library 2.0 -the social web -librarian as social worker -conflict management and resolution

85. research methods/ assessment

86. Web technologies, including Web 2.0, HTML, other building blocks of web pages; I also didn't really get much about copyright issues and licensing at all, and so much of our interlibrary loan and electronic resources services rely on this sort of information now.

87. More theory, particularly philosophy relating to language, semiotics, and linguistic conventions, e.g., Wittgenstein, Goodman

88. I the subjects taught need to be made relevant to the library. I had no library background prior to my MLS, and it felt like the courses were taught with the mindset that the students already knew what it was like to work in a library. I'd like a management class that talks about how to deal with a library board. I'd like a collection development class that provides some examples of how to track purchases/orders. I think all programs NEED to add a customer service class. I think a class on marketing would be extremely beneficial, too.

89. More searching, pragmatic examples, and specialized library classes (ie, medical library specific courses).