



# UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

## Field Study Program

*To apply for the position, please submit your resume to the email address below.*

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**Descriptive Overview:** Provide a brief and descriptive summary of the purpose of the position.

**Emerging Technology Scout:** The Emerging Technology Scout acts as a knowledge and technology transfer agent to the University of Maryland Library Staff and all interested patrons. As such, the Technology Scout is expected to have familiarity with existing technological trends and to identify relevant technologies to research libraries. The Technology Scout is expected to review, analyze and develop an understanding of technologies through reading the latest literature on the topic and evaluating tools. An important part of the field study involves assessing the feasibility of emerging technologies and how they would benefit research libraries, particularly the University of Maryland Libraries. An analysis of the University of Maryland Libraries' infrastructure, tools and processes may be necessary for developing useful technology recommendations. The person(s) undertaking this course should have excellent communication skills in writing and in presentations, in order to provide a description of the reviewed technologies and their recommendations to library staff with varying levels of technical skills.

**Duties and Responsibilities:** Provide a bulleted list of duties and responsibilities. List the top five to seven work activities can be listed below.

**Duties:**

1. Find and review technology and library literature.
2. Evaluate and analyze emerging technologies and tools.
3. Describe recent advances in technologies and their relevance to research libraries to technical and non-technical staff in the Libraries.
4. Assess current UMD Library infrastructure and practices.
5. Assess costs and benefits of selected technologies and tools to UMD Libraries.

**Deliverables:**

- 1) Written report(s) on either emerging library technology(ies) or general technologies that may be applicable to UMD Libraries:
  - a) Technical description and evaluation
  - b) References to current literature
  - c) Cost/benefits analysis
  - d) Findings
  - e) Recommendations
  - f) Before and After Conditions:
    - i) Existing Conditions, resources, infrastructure, processes, system context
    - ii) Impacts on the above
- 2) Oral presentation of findings (seminar, workshop, demonstrations, tutorials, etc.)

**Required skills:** Familiarity with and interest in technology trends and their applicability to Research Libraries, especially UMD Libraries.