The Department of Computer Information Systems (CIS) offers the Master of Science in Accounting and Information Systems with Information Systems as the primary field. The department also offers courses for the Master of Business Administration degree. A minor in Information Systems is offered for students seeking a master’s degree other than the M.B.A. The CIS graduate coordinator serves as advisor for students choosing Information Systems as their primary field.

Students are also encouraged to contact the CIS Department to discuss its program.

The prerequisites for a student seeking an M.S. in Information Systems are the same as those required for the M.B.A. degree plus instruction in international business. A recent graduate of an AACSB-accredited program would normally possess an adequate background in the business prerequisites.

Students electing Information Systems as a primary field without an undergraduate degree in information systems or demonstrable professional experience in the discipline are required to complete the additional prerequisites of INFS 3700 and 4790 (or 5790). INFS 5790 may be taken for credit toward the graduate degree. Completion of prerequisite courses does not reduce the hours necessary for completion of degree. Students without formal training or experience in computer programming are often encouraged to take some additional INFS courses including COBOL Applications, INFS 2720, and Advanced Programming, INFS 4760 (5760). A portion of these requirements may be satisfied in conjunction with the student’s graduate studies.

To be admitted to the M.S. program (see page 27), a student must meet one of the following:

a.  GPA x 200 + GMAT = 950
   or Upper Division GPA x 200 + GMAT = 1,000

b.  International students must comply with the following provision:
   For undergraduate degrees from foreign institutions where a grade point average cannot be clearly established but where that work is thought to be equivalent to domestic grades of B or higher, admission eligibility may be determined by the GMAT score. A score of at least 450 is required for unconditional admission under such circumstances. Preparatory work taken in institutions with grading systems paralleling that of most United States institutions must conform to a B average.
Requirements for the Master of Science

Information Systems as Primary Field

Required
INFS 6710 Systems Analysis
INFS 6790 Seminar in Database Management
QM 6770 Computer-Based Decision Modeling
ACTG 6910 Accounting and Business Decisions
INFS 6980 Information Systems Practicum

Electives
Six hours in INFS at the 6000 level
Three hours of INFS or ACTG at the 5000 or 6000 level
Three hours of approved electives at the 5000 or 6000 level
Three hours in international/global at the 6000 level (may be satisfied by INFS 6750, Seminar in Global Information Systems)

Additional Requirements
INFS 6980 must be passed with a grade of B- or higher with a maximum enrollment of two times.

The degree is to be completed within six years from the time of admission to the degree program.

No foreign language or thesis is required in the program.

No more than two (2) 5000-level classes may be taken as part of the degree program.

Information systems majors may meet the international/global requirement with any approved Jennings A. Jones College of Business course; however, the selection of INFS 6750, Seminar in Global Strategic Information Systems, is encouraged.

Students planning to graduate in the minimum amount of time, including Summer attendance, should plan their programs carefully in order to meet course sequencing and scheduling constraints. The Computer Information Systems Department can provide scheduling assistance.

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available on a competitive basis to qualified students.

Students with undergraduate degrees in Information Systems may not take INFS 6610 to satisfy either a required or elective course in the program.

Courses in Information Systems [INFS]

5200 Data Enhanced Internet Applications. Three credits. Prerequisites: 6 hours of information systems. Focus on designing, deploying, maintaining, and querying an Internet database using appropriate hardware and software. In-depth study of e-commerce applications in a microcomputer environment.

5760 Advanced Programming. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 2720. Functional programming experience in structured programming techniques; top-down design; advanced file handling and maintenance techniques to include sequential, indexed sequential, direct, and relative file organization; interactive, menu-driven applications; and uploading/downloading programs to a central site. Requires extensive laboratory work.

5790 Database Design and Development. Three credits. Prerequisite: 6 hours of information systems. Fundamental concepts: conventional data systems, integrated management information systems, database structure systems, data integration, complex file structure, online access systems. Emphasis on total integrated information systems database and database management languages.

5830 Database Programming. Three credits. Prerequisite: 6 hours of information systems. Operational database design and implementation. Includes the development of interfaces that enable end users to query the database contents and transform data into information. Requires each student to participate fully in a group project.

5840 Study Abroad. Three credits. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and completion of core courses in respective field as determined by graduate business studies. A short-term international business education experience designed to expose the student to the economic, political, cultural, and social environments of a foreign country(ies), with specific emphasis directed toward the international state/status of the subject matter pertinent to the discipline.

5900 Business Data Communications. Three credits. Prerequisite: 6 hours of information systems. Current topics in the field of data communications.


6610 Information Systems Management and Applications. Three credits. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and INFS 3100 or 6010. Focuses on utilization of computing resources in managerial context. Students will develop an understanding of issues and implications of information resources and end-user computing as well as develop skills in application of these concepts in a problem-solving oriented microcomputer system environment. NOT open to students with an undergraduate degree in Information Systems.

6620 Advanced Computer Applications for Business. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 6610 or permission of instructor. Advanced application development in an end-user computing environment. Opportunity to develop skills in building applications to support management activities in the information age. Includes database systems, electronic spreadsheets, and other appropriate application environments.

6710 Systems Analysis. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 6610 or an undergraduate major or minor in Information Systems or permission of instructor. Practical explanation of the total systems concept and a knowledge of systems development. Addresses the entire development cycle including analysis, design, and implementation.

6720 Decision Support Systems. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 3100 or 6010. Examines the broad area of management support systems. Concepts and issues surrounding decision support systems, expert systems, and executive information systems. Software packages used to solve application problems chosen from appropriate business areas.
6740 Strategic Information Systems. Three credits. Prerequisite: 6 graduate hours of information systems. Focuses on the use of information system (IS) and information technology (IT) in the strategic management process in business organizations. Emphasis on the strategic view of IS and IT and their impact on organizational strategy. Use of IS and IT to support prominent generic strategy models and how IS and IT aid applying the principles of those generic strategic models.

6750 Global Strategic Information Systems. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 3100 or 6010 or permission of instructor. Examines the managerial, operational, and strategic implications of information and communication technology in the global context. Particular emphasis on the strategic dimension.

6760 Programming Applications. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 2200 or permission of instructor. Beginning to advanced topics in computer programming. Structured programming approach emphasized as students write application programs for an increasingly difficult series of exercises.

6790 Seminar in Database Management. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 6610 or an undergraduate major or minor in Information Systems or approval of instructor. Advanced topics in computer-related information systems as found in current literature and practical application. Advanced information structures and data management concepts applied in the design of computer-based information systems. Additional topics include data structures as applied to distributed processing systems, computer system component resource allocation, and data communication systems design. Significant computer application projects required.

6880 Electronic Commerce. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 3100 or 6010 or permission of instructor. The business and technical implications of electronic commerce from the perspective of the manager of information technology. Introduces the technical, business, managerial, and social issues associated with electronic commerce systems. Addresses the role of information technology in the development of electronic commerce applications and considers the ethical and legal implications of electronic commerce.

6900 Business Data Communication Management. Three credits. Prerequisite: INFS 3100 or 6010 or permission of instructor. Management and use of data communications technologies to support the operations of businesses. Practical experiences in the use of data communications technologies, such as local area networks, the Internet, distributed computing, and distributed databases.

6980 Information Systems Practicum. Three credits. Prerequisites: 6 hours of information systems. Emphasizes communication skills, creative thinking, problem solving, and professional responsibility from a leadership perspective. Includes the discussion of information systems assessment in organizations. Capstone course for Information Systems majors and must be taken the last semester prior to graduation.

6990, 6991 Independent Research in Information Systems. Three credits. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of department chair. Provides individual research, readings analysis, or projects in contemporary problems and issues in a concentrated area of study under the direction of an appropriate faculty member. Maximum credit applicable toward degree may not exceed six credits.

Courses in Quantitative Methods [Q M]

6000 Quantitative Methods Survey. Three credits. Quantitative methodologies to assist in the decision-making process. Emphasis on applied statistics and decision sciences topics that are practical, useful, and of wide application for business analysis. May not be used for elective credit in graduate business degree program.


6960 Statistical Methodology and Analysis. Three credits. Prerequisite: Q M 3620 or 6000. Descriptive and inferential statistical concepts with the use of expert systems to assist in the selection of appropriate design and methodology. Utilization of common packages for problem solution and analysis.