Master of Science in Management Information Systems Program

The Master of Science in Management Information Systems (MSMIS) program is designed to prepare students for careers in the analysis, design, implementation, and management of information systems and information technology (IT). The program, which consists of 36 semester credit hours, offers three tracks: Information Systems Management, Digital Business and Knowledge Management, and Information Security Management. For these three tracks, the program requires 15 credit hours of core courses, 6 credit hours of research or practicum courses, and 15 credit hours of elective courses.

Most students are able to complete the MSMIS degree program in two years or less.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit evidence of completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5, and satisfy other general admission requirements established by the Graduate School. Applicants must submit a resume, a one-page summary of interest and demonstration of interest in information/technology/information systems and their applications. Applicants must submit two letters of reference (one of which should be from a previous college instructor). The undergraduate degree coursework should include College Algebra, Statistics or Quantitative Methods, a Programming Language, Management, and Computer Applications. Applicants who do not meet the requisite conditions may be granted conditional admission and may be required to complete some or all of the following foundation courses:

- MGMT 241 – Principles of Management
- BUIS 360 – Information Systems for Management
- BUIS 362 – Database for Business
- ECON 351 – Business and Economic Statistics or ECON 483 – Quantitative Methods for Decision Making
- INSS 505 – Object Oriented Programming or other computer programming course
- INSS 510 – Computer Concepts

Students who have some work experience in the field of information systems or information technology field, but do not have the requisite academic background may qualify for admission to the MSMIS program.

Degree Requirements

A minimum of 36 semester hours consisting of 15 credit hours of core, 6 credit hours of research or practicum courses, and 15 credit hours of elective courses are needed to satisfy the degree requirements.

Core Courses (15 Credits)

INSS 615 – Principles and Practices of Information Systems Development*
INSS 630 – Information Systems in Organizations*
INSS 638 – Data Communications and Networks*
INSS 640 – Information Systems Analysis & Design*
INSS 650 – Database Management and Decision Systems*

*Courses recommended to be completed before attempting the comprehensive examination (INSS 799).

Practicum or Research (Thesis) Option (6 Credits):

Once the student passes the qualifying examination, he or she would select either the research (thesis) or practicum option. The student then takes 6 credit hours of courses associated with the chosen option.

Practicum Option:

INSS 880 – Information Systems Practicum
INSS 888 – Information Systems Practicum II

Research (Thesis) Option:

INSS 890 – Professional Seminar
INSS 898 – Directed Thesis Research

Electives Courses (15 credits): Based on the track, the student will, under the guidance of his/her academic advisor, select 15 credit hours from the following list of elective courses.

Elective Courses

Information Systems Management Track (15 credits)

INSS 720 – Information Systems Policy
INSS 730 – Strategic Information Management
INSS 733 – Business Process and Change Management
INSS 740 – Advanced Object-Oriented Analysis and Design

INSS 745 – Systems Problem Solving Methods
INSS 775 – Information Systems Project Management
INSS 776 – Principles of Enterprise Architecture
INSS 825 – Issues in Information Systems Management
INSS 735 – Information Systems Security
INSS 887 – Emerging Issues in Information Security Management

Digital Business and Knowledge Management Track (15 credits)

INSS 662 – Decision Support and Intelligent Decision Systems
INSS 663 – Electronic Commerce and e-Business Technologies
INSS 658 – Health Informatics
INSS 673 – Fundamentals of Digital Business Strategy
INSS 715 – Knowledge Management Systems
INSS 750 – Database and Distributed Systems Security
INSS 755 – Data Warehousing and Mining
INSS 885 – Special Topics: e-Business Venture Creation
INSS 895 – Emerging Issues in Digital Business and Knowledge Management
INSS 735 – Information Systems Security
INSS 773 – Digital Business Security
INSS 775 – Information Systems Project Management
INSS 825 – Issues in Information Systems Management
INSS 887 – Emerging Issues in Information Security Management

Information Security Management Track (15 credits)

INSS 636 – Information Systems and Telecommunications
INSS 735 – Information Systems Security
INSS 765 – Information Measures
INSS 770 – Auditing, Monitoring, and Intrusion Detection
INSS 773 – Digital Business Security
INSS 777 – Advanced Information and Network Security
INSS 778 – Information Security Risk Management
INSS 779 – Advanced Information Assurance
INSS 887 – Emerging Issues in Information Security Management
INSS 750 – Database and Distributed Systems Security
INSS 775 – Information Systems Project Management
INSS 825 – Issues in Information Systems Management

Revised June 25, 2018
Curriculum Sequence
The following sequence represents a typical selection of courses. The recommended course sequence is as follows:

First and Second Semesters
INSS 615 - Principles and Practices of Information Systems Development
INSS 630 - Information Systems in Organizations
INSS 638 - Data Communications and Networks
INSS 640 - Information Systems Analysis and Design
INSS 650 - Database Management and Decision Systems
Elective (1 course)

Third and Fourth Semesters
Qualifying Examination
Electives (4 courses)
The two courses for Practicum Option OR the two courses for Research (Thesis) Option

Program of Study
Each student is required to develop a Program of Study in consultation with his/her advisor, during the first semester of enrollment. The program of study designates the student’s track selection and is required for advancement to candidacy. Students are strongly encouraged to seek the guidance of the faculty in the preparation of the program of study.

Advancement to Candidacy
Upon completion of fifteen (15) hours of core coursework, the student should apply for advancement to candidacy. The minimum GPA for Advancement to Candidacy is 3.25. Students who fail to meet the minimum GPA requirement will be denied Advancement to Candidacy. Other university requirements may apply.

Qualifying Examination
To be eligible to take the Qualifying Examination in the Information Systems Management, Digital Business and Knowledge Management, or Information Security Management tracks, a student must have completed the core courses INSS 615, INSS 630, INSS 638, INSS 640 and INSS 650, and must have been advanced to candidacy. Students have two chances to take and pass the exam.

Information Systems Analyst Certificate Program
The admission requirements are the same for both the graduate certificate and master’s degree programs. The purpose of the certificate program is to prepare management professionals to serve as the liaison between functional units and the information processing/computer operations unit in organizations. The certificate program emphasizes the assessment of information management needs and the design of systems to meet those needs. Requirements for the certificate are 15 credit hours. The requisite courses are listed below:

- INSS 615 - Principles and Practices of Information Systems Development
- INSS 630 - Information Systems in Organizations
- INSS 640 - Information Systems Analysis & Design
- INSS 650 - Database Management & Decision Systems
- INSS 775 – Information Systems Project Management

(It is recommended that the student apply for the Certificate while still enrolled in the program but after the completion of the required courses.)

Students who do not have a solid background in computer or information systems will be required to complete INSS 510 and/or INSS 505 as a prerequisite course.

Revised June 25, 2018