Information Systems (IS) Courses

IS 5003. Introduction to Information Systems. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
A conceptual study of information systems in organizations. A survey of information systems concepts will be presented, including a historical perspective of information systems, the structure of the information systems function, an introduction to information systems technologies (hardware and software), application planning, system development, end user computing, decision support systems, and the management of information systems resources. Small cases and application problems which illustrate the concepts studied will be assigned. Credit for this course cannot be counted toward the M.B.A. concentration in Information Systems or the Master of Science degree in Information Technology.

IS 5113. Electronic Commerce and Web Site Design. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: IS 5003 or an equivalent. Addresses the technological aspects of doing business on the Internet, including the technology underlying the Internet, common services required for all electronic commerce such as authentication and electronic payment systems, and the problems associated with some electronic commerce applications. Examines the principles of Web site design as it relates to electronic commerce.

IS 5143. Information Technology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree in information systems or computer science, or consent of instructor. Broad coverage of technology concepts underlying modern computing and information management. Topics include computer architecture and operating systems, information retrieval techniques, graphical user interfaces, networks, groupware, computer performance evaluation, efficiency of algorithms, and cryptography. Hands-on exposure to Internet services, SQL database language, PowerBuilder graphical interface language, and object-oriented programming language.

IS 5193. Software Engineering Management. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree in information systems or computer science, or consent of instructor. Focuses on managing and improving the delivery of software in organizations, especially projects that include the development of large, multidisciplined systems. Students are exposed to the tools and techniques used on commercial systems, and will present research on how best to manage information technology projects. Emphasis on measurement tools for effective managerial planning and control.

IS 5203. Telecommunication Systems. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree in information systems or computer science, or consent of instructor. Examines current, future, and basic technical concepts and related telecommunications operations; explores critical issues of communications and connectivity among information systems from a strategic, organizational, and technical perspectives. An in-depth examination of basic telecommunication terminology and concepts. Topics include signaling, modulation, multiplexing, frequency bands and propagation characteristics, spectral analysis of signals, digital coding, switching systems, OSI models, and traffic analysis.

IS 5513. Fundamentals of Information Assurance. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing. This course examines the principle areas of information assurance. Topics will include protecting networks, intrusion detection, digital forensics, and supervisory control and data acquisition. Application to business environments will be emphasized. Credit for this course cannot be counted toward the Master of Science degree in Information Technology. (Same as ACC 5513. Credit cannot be earned for both IS 5513 and ACC 5513.)

IS 6103. Object Oriented Analysis and Design. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: IS 4053 or consent of instructor. Integrates the areas of computer technology, systems analysis, and systems design in designing large-scale systems. A strong introduction to the formalization of the information systems design process is provided. The course explores state of the art systems design and specification techniques and stresses the frontiers of knowledge in the specification, design, implementation, and testing of information systems. (Formerly titled “Information Systems Design and Implementation.”).

IS 6303. Introduction to Voice and Data Security. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in IS 5203. A study of security in both the voice and data networks and an examination of the security issues associated with the movement toward a convergence of the two infrastructures. Topics to be covered include voice and data network connectivity, modem security, VOIP security, wireless security, cryptography, intrusion detection systems, voice and data firewalls, malicious software, information operations and warfare, and denial of service attacks.

IS 6323. Security Risk Analysis. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: IS 5203 and IS 6303, or consent of instructor. Addresses the tools, techniques, and methodologies in performing computer system and network security risk analyses. Computer system and network vulnerabilities will be examined as well as tools designed to discover or exploit them. Security Best Practices and audit requirements for specific environments will be studied. Topics to be covered include internal and external penetration tests, ward dialing, wireless security technology, risk analysis methodology, and security audits.

IS 6343. Secure Network Designs. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: IS 5203 and IS 6303, or consent of instructor. The course is intended to provide the background on issues related to secure network design and management. Subjects to be covered include network design, firewalls, security, fault management, and performance management. Current network management software, network security evaluation, and the role of the network architecture and protocols will also be discussed.

IS 6353. Security Incident Response. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: IS 6303. Addresses the detection and response portion of the security operational model. Takes an in-depth look at intrusion detection methodologies and tools and the approaches to handling intrusions when they occur. Examines the laws that address cybercrime and intellectual property issues. Includes a study of proper computer and network forensics procedures to aid in the identification and tracking of intruders and in the potential prosecution of criminal activity.

IS 6363. Computer Forensics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: IS 6303 or consent of instructor. This class will examine the role of computer forensics in the security process. Technical issues concerning how to conduct a forensic examination as well as the legal issues associated with the process will be studied. Current forensics software will be used to illustrate the process.
IS 6373. Cyber Law. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Legal issues associated with cybercrimes will be studied. Laws associated with cybercrime, and rules of evidence will be the main issues discussed in this class. Intellectual property and privacy will also be included.

IS 6383. Policy Assurance for Infrastructure Assurance. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. This course will examine the policies associated with infrastructure assurance. This will include the laws and regulations from a governmental body as well as policies generated by a business organization. The emphasis will be to examine the effect that policies and policy decisions have on the security function. Current case studies will be included.

IS 6403. Information Resource Management. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: MGT 5043 or consent of instructor. Study of the problems and techniques associated with managing information resources. Topics include information systems project planning and control, staffing, and costing alternatives. The role of the information systems function in relation to the business firm is also studied.

IS 6423. Secure Software Design. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: IS 5143 and IS 6303, or consent of instructor. This class will present ways of designing and implementing secure software. Techniques for developing interconnected software that is secure from outside attack will be explored. Modifying legacy code will also be discussed. Case studies and class projects will be used to illustrate the design principles discussed in class.

IS 6433. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: IS 6303 or consent of instructor. Supervisory control and data acquisition systems are used to control many utility networks, chemical plants, pipelines and many other types of industries. This course will examine the vulnerabilities associated with these systems and discuss how they can be made secure from outside attack. Fundamentals of software-controlled processes will also be discussed.

IS 6503. Principles of Database Management. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: IS 3063 or consent of instructor. Discussion and in-depth analysis of topics associated with the definition, creation, and management of databases for business-oriented applications. Topics include current developments in the field of database management systems. Design and implementation of a database system will be done as a major project in the course.

IS 6703. Introduction to Data Mining. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces the fundamental data mining concepts and techniques that are applicable to business research. The course covers basic skills required to assemble analyses for both pattern discovery and predictive modeling. It provides extensive hands-on instruction using data mining software. This course is open to all graduate students. (Same as ACC 6703. Credit cannot be earned for both IS 6703 and ACC 6703. (Formerly titled “Advanced Business Information Systems”).

IS 6713. Data Foundations. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
The ability to understand, store, process, transform, clean, fuse, and share data is critical to data analytics; and it can often be the most challenging and/or most time consuming part of the data analytics process due to the vast variety of data sources, types, and formats. This course equips students to collect/process common types of data used in data analytics, and provides them a solid understanding of various data sources, types, and formats, and how to handle and process each. Topics include, but are not limited to, structured vs. unstructured data; data compression, encodings, and character sets; and common metadata in use today, such as geospatial data, temporal data, and linked data (e.g., social network linkages). Students will have the opportunity to learn how to store, process, transform, clean, fuse, and share data. Exemplar data will be used extensively in the course so that students see and experience a wide variety of data and understand how to process and handle it. Data handling exercises will be provided in the context of scenario based problems to further improve their educational knowledge, practical skill set, and contextual understanding.

IS 6733. Big Data Technology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Data set size and the computer intensive nature of many analytic processes are necessarily driving data analytics tasks to the cloud – both for large scale, economic storage and for economic-distributed computing power. The course will not focus on the in-source vs. out-source nature of the cloud infrastructure nor the system and network maintenance thereof. Rather, the course will give students the opportunity to learn how and when to use distributed computing and cloud-based platforms. Students will have the opportunity to learn how to set-up, configure, use, and maintain big data processes, platforms, and environments locally and “in the cloud.” Students will also gain experience with using common cloud-based data analytics platforms, as well as big data indexing, search, and retrieval platforms.

IS 6813. Strategic Management of Information Technology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Semester of graduation or consent of Graduate Advisor of Record. This course develops a conceptual framework for strategy, its definition, elements, and relationships to the basic business functions of management of information technology. Considers the impact of technology and environmental forces on strategic management of organizations. Examines the role of information technology in business process re-engineering, product life cycles, and new business models. (Same as MOT 5203 and MOT 6203. Credit can be earned for only one of the following: IS 6813, MOT 5203, or MOT 6203).

IS 6933. Internship in Information Technology. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Graduate standing, 15 semester credit hours of graduate work (including IS 5143), and consent of instructor. Supervised full- or part-time off-campus work experience and training in the areas of information technology. May not be done at student’s current or past employer unless in a new role/function. May not be repeated for credit. (Credit cannot be earned for both IS 6933 and IS 6943).

IS 6943. Internship in Cyber Security. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Graduate standing, 15 semester credit hours of graduate work (including IS 6303), and consent of instructor. Supervised full- or part-time off-campus work experience and training in the areas of cyber security. May not be done at student’s current or past employer unless in a new role/function. May not be repeated for credit. (Credit cannot be earned for both IS 6943 and IS 6933).
IS 6953. Independent Study. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and permission in writing (form available) of the instructor and the student's Graduate Advisor of Record. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/or writing under the direction of a faculty member. For students needing specialized work not normally or not often available as part of the regular course offerings. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to the degree.

IS 6961. Comprehensive Examination. (0-0) 1 Credit Hour. Prerequisite: Approval of the appropriate committee on graduate studies to take the Comprehensive Examination. Independent study course for the purpose of taking the Comprehensive Examination. May be repeated as many times as approved by the Committee on Graduate Studies. Enrollment is required each term in which the Comprehensive Examination is taken if no other courses are being taken that term. The grade report for the course is either "CR" (satisfactory performance on the Comprehensive Examination) or "NC" (unsatisfactory performance on the Comprehensive Examination).

IS 6971. Special Problems. (1-0) 1 Credit Hour. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. An organized course offering the opportunity for specialized study not normally or not often available as part of the regular course offerings. Special Problems courses may be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to the degree.

IS 6973. Special Problems. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. An organized course offering the opportunity for specialized study not normally or not often available as part of the regular course offerings. Special Problems courses may be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 hours, regardless of discipline, will apply to the degree.

IS 6983. Master's Thesis. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisites: Permission of the Graduate Advisor of Record and thesis director (form available). Thesis research and preparation. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 6 hours will apply to the Master's degree. Credit will be awarded upon completion of the thesis. Enrollment is required each term in which the thesis is in progress.

IS 7013. Foundations of Information Systems Research. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. A survey of the foundations of information systems (IS) research. Students gain an understanding of both the foundations and the current research directions in a variety of IS topic areas. The course addresses frameworks, research concepts, and exemplary Management Information Systems (MIS) research. Students develop the ability to critically evaluate MIS journal articles and are exposed to diverse topics, research methodologies, and journals.

IS 7023. Behavioral and Organizational Information Systems Research. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. This course focuses on one or more areas of emerging IS behavioral research. Topics may include individual, group, or organizational decision making, issues for e-commerce, knowledge management, management of information, and human factors. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

IS 7033. Topics in Information Systems Technology Research. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. This research seminar focuses on issues and methods in one or more areas having to do with the technology of information systems. Topics may include communication systems, infrastructure assurance, and data management. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

IS 7043. Seminar in Software Development. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. In this course, theories and models applicable to the analysis of systems structure and the processes of systems analysis and design are studied in relation to software engineering concepts. Emerging or advanced topics in the development of information system applications, such as socio-technical or soft-system methods, methodology engineering, or workflow system design, are included.