

Information Systems Specialization: Overview

A specialization in information systems provides students with the ability to lead in the digital age. The Carlson School is ranked **#4 best business school in the nation for information systems** (*U.S. News & World Report, 2016*). Students pursuing this specialization will appreciate the profound and often disruptive impact information and communication technologies have on business and society. Students will garner the necessary skills to leverage IT to create efficient organizations characterized by standardized business processes and integrated data.

Additionally, the specialization will prepare students for increasingly compliance and security intensive environments due to heavy integration of IT with key financial and accounting processes. Finally, students will learn how to innovate and create top-line growth and differentiation opportunities based on data-driven business intelligence, harnessing social media to develop customer intimacy and by optimally leveraging a global sourcing of IT and IT enabled business processes.

Students with a specialization in information systems will be attractive candidates for careers in:

- Strategic and technology consulting
- Business analytics and predictive modeling
- Compliance and auditing of business processes
- Global sourcing management
- E-procurement
- ERP consulting
- Vendor relationship management
- Project management
- IT governance
- Business facing roles of the IT functions of all major corporations
- Search and computational advertising and social media specialists

Information Systems: Recommended Courses

It is recommended that 12 credits be completed for a specialization in information systems. The following courses are recommended for an information systems specialization:

- IDSc 6421** Financial Information Systems and Technologies (2 credits)
- IDSc 6423** Enterprise Systems (2 credits)
- IDSc 6442** E-Sourcing and E-Auctions (2 credits)
- IDSc 6444** Business Intelligence (2 credits)
- IDSc 6446** Advanced Business Intelligence (2 credits)
- IDSc 6455** Web 2.0: Business of Social Media (2 credits)
- IDSc 6465** Global Sourcing of IT and IT Enabled Services (4 credits)
- IDSc 6471** Knowledge Management (2 credits)
- IDSc 6481** Managerial Decision Making (2 credits)
- IDSc 6490** Topics in Information Systems (credits vary)

Additionally, we recommend that students also consider incorporating interdisciplinary courses to obtain a well-rounded business foundation. The following courses are suggested as complementary to an emphasis in information systems.

- FINA 6242** Advanced Corporate Finance Analysis and Decisions (4 credits)
- MGMT 6050** Management of Innovation and Change (2 credits)
- MGMT 6040** International Strategy and Organization (2 credits)
- SCO 6051** Service Management (2 credits)
- ENTR 6041** New Product Design and Business Development (4 credits)

Please note, not all courses listed above are offered every semester. Use the [One Stop Class Schedule](#) to verify each semester's course offerings and the assigned professor. In Spring 2013 the guidelines for this specialization were updated from 10 to 12 credits.

Additional Course Resources: access elective course descriptions ([executive summaries](#)) and [schedules](#) of when courses are traditionally offered.