
Executive Summary: IDSc 6423

Course Name: Enterprise Systems Technology
Course Number: IDSc 6423 **Credits:** 2 credits
Prerequisites: IDSc 6040 or 6050

Target Audience

The class is designed students who are not only interested in playing an active role in influencing the use of enterprise systems in organizations, but also are interested in developing skills that will enable a framework of thinking on how the intersection of business and technology drives innovation. This would apply equally well to IST Portfolio students as well as students whose primary interests lie in other areas such as supply chain management, market segmentation and customer relationship management, financial and managerial accounting, and strategy.

Description

Organizations that purchase enterprise systems applications are typically interested in achieving several broad benefits:

- Transforming parts (or all) of the business to improve efficiency, time to market, communication and other process-related goals
- Increasing visibility and transparency into operations and finances
- Improving coordination and information sharing across different parts of the organization.

This course provides a framework of thinking for managers who make planning, implementation, and deployment decisions about enterprise systems. Software alone has no value unless it is deployed properly in an organization. The ultimate measure of any enterprise system is whether users adopt the software and fully use it for the benefit of the organization. Accomplishing this goal often requires training and change management, especially when processes and roles change. These are subjects that will be addressed during the course discussion.

Objectives & Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to participate in and influence decisions involving enterprise systems. Enterprise systems are about business value. Treat enterprise systems as a major business investment rather than view it as a purely technical project. Even though enterprise systems rely on technology, the primary function of any such solution is delivering business value. From vendor selection through implementation and go-live, you will learn to always ask, "What are the business benefits of this investment?" Without defining concrete and specific business benefits, any investment in enterprise systems is a waste of money and time. More than anything else, enterprise systems is about improving your business.

Major Course Topics

This course focuses on Enterprise Systems impact in real industry situations that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The relevancy of enterprise systems
- A CEO's perspective on enterprise systems
- Emerging trends impact on enterprise systems
- Enterprise systems transformation impact
- Business analytics from enterprise systems
- Social software's impact on enterprise systems

Course Approach and Requirements

The course is designed around industry leaders sharing their thoughts and experiences on the impact of enterprise systems transforming corporations, large and small, and the future of enterprise systems given technology and business trends. The value of this course comes in the interaction of the class with the subject matter experts presenting their point of view.

There are three requirements for the course:

1. an individual project that focuses on the future of enterprise systems
2. one end of term quiz based on subjects discussed in class
3. class participation and attendance in the discussion