MASTER OF SCIENCE (MS) IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The Master of Science in Information Systems program focuses on technical, managerial and policy issues associated with constructing and managing computer-based information systems for modern organizations. All areas of private and public enterprise rely on information systems for communication, planning, providing services, control and supporting decisions. The objectives of this program are to meet the growing demand in society for graduates with high-level information system skills and provide a path for women and men from diverse fields to rapidly transition to information system career paths by providing them with foundation graduate level courses in information systems. The program is explicitly designed to accommodate students from wide ranging undergraduate degree backgrounds.

Students will develop knowledge and technical skills in such areas as information system design, human-computer interaction, database systems design and management, systems development, computer networks, and information law and ethics. They will gain working familiarity with one or more programming languages, the concepts of managing resources across local and wide area networks including technical and managerial concepts of distributed systems, client-server systems, world-wide web, digital libraries, and further evolving network-based systems. Relational and object-oriented databases and systems for group decision support will also be addressed in the context of designing and managing databases. In addition, students will take courses that provide an understanding of business and engineering applications and thus provide further foundations for effective communication with end users.

This graduate program is offered both on campus and in entirety by distance methods.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (30 credits)

The Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIS) consists of 30 credits, all earned in course work. The program consists of five three-credit required core courses and a minimum of fifteen additional credits from a list of elective courses approved for the program drawn from a range of disciplines. If some required courses are duplicative of courses that may have been taken in the student’s undergraduate degree program, those courses need not be repeated, and the student will select in consultation with the MSIS Graduate Coordinator and the Steering Committee additional approved courses to arrive at the total of 30 credit hours.

Required Courses

The following five courses must be taken and all count toward the graduate degree unless they were counted in a student’s undergraduate program.

• SIE 505 – Formal Foundations for Information Science (3 cr.)
• SIE 507 – Information Systems Programming (3 cr.)
• SIE 515 – Human Computer Interaction (3 cr.)
• SIE 525 – Information Systems Law (3 cr.)
• SIE 550 – Design of Information Systems (3 cr.)

FACULTY PROFILE

Dr. Nicholas Giudice’s research combines expertise in perception, cognitive neuroscience and human factors Engineering using an integrative approach he calls neurocognitive engineering. Studies in the VEMI lab he directs are based on behavioral experiments with human participants in both real environments and virtual reality (VR).
ADVISING CENTER

NOT SURE WHERE TO BEGIN?

Contact our advising center to get started. Our Enrollment Advisors can help you decide which academic program is right for you, review transfer credits, walk you through the Admission process, discuss financial aid options, describe what it’s like to learn online, and more. We are here for you!

Set up an appointment today.
207.581.5858
umaineonline@maine.edu
Belfast and Orono locations
umaine.edu/online

Tuition*

Maine Residents:
$418/credit hour

Non-Residents:
$1,361/credit hour

Fees*

• Unified Fee
  less than 6 credit hours: $125
  6–11 credit hours: $381
  12–15 credit hours: $934
  16 or more credit hours: $958

• Online Fee
  $25/credit hour

*Rates apply to the 2016-17 academic year. Unique course and/or program fees may apply.

Apply Now

Ready to get started?
Visit us online for information on how to apply: umaine.edu/online

WHAT CAN I DO WITH AN MS IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS?

The future business climate will be characterized by rapid technological change, intense global competition, faster product life cycles and more complex, specialized markets. In such an environment the information needs of organizations are increasingly complex and rapidly changing. Individuals with information systems expertise who can design and develop information systems, manage sophisticated information resources, work on interdisciplinary teams and communicate effectively with business managers, engineers and other end-users are in short supply. A major goal of our graduate programs is to produce individuals who can make significant contributions to economic development by ensuring that businesses have the expertise needed to remain competitive.

The demand for graduates of graduate-level information systems programs both in-state and nationally is high. Information technologies are key to enabling the growth of businesses. Individuals in all areas of private and public enterprise rely on information systems for communication, planning, control and decision support. The advanced knowledge provided by graduate-level information systems programs is needed across a wide range of commercial settings.

While the marketplace demand for students with graduate course work in information systems is already high, the demand for such skills is predicted to steeply increase in the years ahead. Forbes Magazine recently listed Information Systems as one of the top 4 master’s degrees for jobs. Our graduates are prepared for a wide range of positions such as systems analyst, security analyst, database administrator and information systems manager. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) asserts that employers prefer to place individuals with their master’s in Information Systems in supervisory positions and that “employment of computer and information systems managers is projected to grow 15 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations.”

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall Semester 2016
Classes begin August 29
Registration for Spring 2017
October 24–November 18
Final Exams end December 18

Winter Session 2016-2017
Classes begin December 27
Classes end January 14

Spring Semester 2017
Classes begin January 17
Registration for Fall 2017 (tentative)
March 27–April 28
Final exams end May 12
Commencement Saturday, May 13

Summer University 2017
Registration begins February 6
Classes begin May 15
Classes end August 18

The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, 581.1226, eoinfo@umit.maine.edu.