

# COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

## **Computer Information Systems as a field of study**

The Computer Information Systems (CIS) major develops the professional skills and capabilities that enable students to work in the computer and related information technologies (IT) fields. Most jobs require that the professional develop solutions to business problems using technology. CIS majors are trained to be analysts and business problem solvers. The focus of the major is to develop the technical and people skills that will enable students to excel in CIS roles in industry and government.

## **Areas of interest offered in the Computer Information Systems major**

- Security focus
- Technologies focus
- Programmer analyst focus

## **Personal traits associated with success in this major**

- Analytical Skills
- Ability to work in teams and with others
- Oral and written communications
- Logical thinking
- Ability to learn technical subjects
- Detail-oriented

## **Skills Acquired in this major**

- The ability to analyze and problem solve
- The ability to work with people
- The ability to create solutions for business problems and business users
- The ability to utilize computers and technologies

## **Entry level careers associated with Computer Information Systems**

- Security analyst
- Systems analyst
- Business programmer
- Software/systems developer
- Webmaster or web developer
- Network and database specialist
- Computer and equipment salesperson
- IS auditor
- Wireless network administrator
- PC Gaming
- Programmer Analyst
- Project Manager

## **Other Career Opportunities**

Computer Information Systems majors are needed in every career field. Students can double major with any other business major. Many students Minor in Computer Information Systems and use their knowledge of CIS to enhance their careers in their major. Every career field needs professionals with an advanced knowledge of CIS and IT.

### **Expected starting salary range for students majoring in CIS**

\$48,000 - \$65,000

### **Internship opportunities**

Many internship opportunities exist and CIS students may obtain credit for their internship experience. The Center for Advanced Research on Emerging Technologies, a research center developed by the CIS department, will provide internship management and support and act as liaison between students and area IT companies.

### **Scholarship opportunities for Computer Information Systems major**

While there are no scholarships available specifically for students with this major, CIS majors are eligible for all open College of Business and university scholarships.

### **Clubs and organizations associated with this major**

There is a student chapter of AITP (Association of Information Technology Professionals - a national organization for information systems professionals). The club meets twice monthly. The club annually sends some of its members to the National Collegiate Conference to compete in national contests and network with other students. The club sponsors lectures and presentations from CIS professionals, previous CIS graduates, and employers.

### **Getting a minor in Computer Information Systems**

A minor in Computer Information Systems is available to any student in the university in a non-business major. It provides those students with knowledge, skills and abilities to utilize computers and related information technologies in their chosen fields. For those students, a CIS minor can give them a competitive edge over their peers in their field.

### **Graduate school opportunities**

CIS majors who seek graduate education generally pursue:

- MBA degree
- Master's in CIS or other related field
- PhD in Computer Information Systems, Management Information Systems, or related fields

### **Resources for more information about this major**

There are many trade journals and publications regarding the CIS field. For specific knowledge about the field, contact:

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