



Management Information Systems



Career Overview

Data is everywhere: location-based from smart phones, social media, text, corporate data, and more. Companies need to analyze this data to get meaningful information to the people who need it. Hence, Management Information Systems (MIS) lives in the space that intersects technology and business. Our graduates create and use technology tools to improve and benefit businesses.

“For business leaders, analytics is no longer just a technology issue, it is a strategy and operational issue. Big data and analytics is a disruptive innovation that is transforming our everyday lives. Enterprises need a holistic plan for creating competitive advantage, identifying opportunities and ultimately measuring value. We believe that there is tremendous value to be gained by those organizations that leverage analytics to transform their business processes and how they make decisions.”

Chris Mazzi and Carmine Di Sibio, EY

Management Information Systems professionals use business intelligence tools to design informative and graphical applications, allowing executives to make strategic decisions analytically. Smeal MIS graduates are well prepared for careers in industry, consulting, and government sectors as business analytics specialists and systems analysis professionals.

Employment Prospects

The MIS major has one of Smeal's highest average starting salaries with very strong placement rates. Students majoring in Management Information Systems have countless options when thinking about internships and full-time jobs. Career paths for MIS students include consulting, analytics, systems analysts, and data analysts. Companies hiring MIS students include Deloitte, KPMG, Manhattan Associates, and PWC. MIS majors gain core competencies to succeed in their fields by learning to explore, analyze, integrate, and report business data; students excel in developing proficiency in business analytics, competency in system analysis and design, and mastering of core business processes.

Students majoring in Management Information Systems



have access to the Smeal Business Career Center.

More information can be found at:
careerconnections.smeal.psu.edu/channels/management-information-systems.

In addition to job-placement services, the department partners with the Center for Supply Chain Research (CSCR) in hosting a fall and spring career fair attended by more than 100 companies.

Major Overview

The MIS major focuses on technology-supported techniques for exploring, analyzing, integrating, and reporting business data to facilitate fact-based decision making and enterprise-wide management. MIS students develop proficiency in business analytics, competency in systems analysis and design, and mastery of core business processes.

Preparing to Enroll in the Major

Enrollment in the MIS major is contingent upon several criteria, which include the timing and completion of a specified range of cumulative credits at Penn State. Students apply for the major once they have earned a minimum of 36 but no more than 59 cumulative credits.



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These credits include required business foundation and related courses. In addition to the course and credit window requirements, students must attain an overall competitive GPA in all courses.

MIS Major Requirements

Complete all the following Management Information Systems courses (18 credits). A grade of "C" or better is required in all MIS courses, including MIS 250.

MIS 301 (3): Business Analytics (Prerequisites: SCM 200 or STAT 200; Concurrent: MATH 110 or MATH 140, MIS 250)

MIS 431 (3): Business Data Management (Prerequisite: MIS 301; Concurrent: SCM 301)

MIS 432 (3): Business Information System Analysis (Concurrent: MIS 431)

MIS 441 (3): Business Intelligence for Decision Making (Prerequisite: MIS 431)

MIS 446 (3): Information Technology and Business Strategy (Prerequisite: MIS 301)

MIS 479W (3): Enterprise Information Systems (Prerequisite: MIS 432)

Select a Two-Piece Sequence

(6 credits) from the areas below or complete a designated University minor.

- Accounting
- Business Law
- Business Sustainability
- Corporate Diversity
- Corporate Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Economics
- Finance
- International Business
- Management
- Marketing
- Real Estate
- Risk Management
- Supply Chain and Information Systems



Scan the QR code

to watch the Video on the Supply Chain and Information Systems (SCIS) Program:



MIS Highlights

Consider some of the other factors that help to enhance the environment for MIS students at the Smeal College of Business.

Top Ranked

Penn State and Smeal have consistently received top rankings from employers. INFORMS is the largest professional association for decision and data sciences. In 2011, INFORM's Board of Directors put together a vigorous new strategic plan with an eye on the burgeoning field of data analytics. In 2012, Smeal Professor of Supply Chain and Information Systems Terry P. Harrison was President of INFORMS. During his term as president, he helped lay the four cornerstones of the new plan to define the data analytics field, introduce certification, expand outreach, improve INFORM's IT backbone, and start continuing education courses.

Student Events

The Supply Chain and Information Systems Department hosts a variety of student events each year, including fall and spring career fairs and career exploration sessions for MIS majors. First-year and second-year students can also learn more about majors, careers, and involvement opportunities at Explore Smeal.

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