Carnegie Mellon University’s Information Systems program prepares students to explore the exciting possibilities that exist where computer science, business and society overlap. Here, we recognize that innovative information systems solutions can change the ways that companies work — and that data and technology may be harnessed for social good to solve problems in an increasingly connected world.

_Utilizing Data and Technology to Positively Impact Humankind_

In the Information Systems program, you’ll learn how computer science and information technology can be used to make a positive impact in business, government and society. You’ll see how quickly ideas move in an increasingly digitized and connected world. And you’ll incorporate business management, humanities and social sciences into your studies to prepare to make your own impact after graduation.

Within the program, you’ll have the opportunity to be immersed in artificial intelligence, machine learning, big data, neural networks, robotics, blockchain, driverless vehicles and more. You’ll learn to understand and anticipate the practical and social applications of technology that are rapidly evolving while making a difference in the way businesses operate.

Many of the technologies you’ll explore as a student were invented here on campus — where you’ll be surrounded by opportunities to join in that spirit of innovation and critical thinking. As a student, you’ll also have the chance to make your mark in the local Pittsburgh community by working with a nonprofit, government organization or small business to help that organization grow. The work you’ll do to solve real problems will allow you to make an immediate impact, and the skills you’ll take with you ensure you’ll continue to do so throughout your career.

_Did you know?_

Women make up 45% of Information Systems faculty and more than 50% of our undergraduate students. Our **WOMEN IN IS PEER MENTORING PROGRAM** provides mentorship and fosters connections for first-year women in the department.

IS students cultivate a global perspective. Past students have **STUDIED ABROAD** in Australia, France, Israel, Qatar, Singapore and the United Kingdom. IS students have also spent summers **CONSULTING** in Palau, Rwanda, India and Peru.

An IS degree has great future potential: today’s IS professionals make a **BIG IMPACT** in everything from autonomous vehicle performance to helping doctors with technical tools to fight public health crises.

**Programs**

**Information Systems Major**
Concentrations provide students with an opportunity to gain depth in a focused area.

**Students can specialize in:**
- Animation & Special Effects
- Business Analytics
- Computer Science
- Cyber Security and International Conflict
- Game Design
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Information Security, Privacy, and Policy
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Machine Learning
- Media Design
- Physical Computing
- Soft Technologies
- Software Engineering
- Statistics
- Technology and Policy

**Specialize in:**
- Data Analytics
- Decision Analytics and Systems
- Health Information Systems
- User Interface, Experience - UX/UI Design
- Technology & Arts Enterprises
- Technology & International Development

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Curriculum Overview

In the Information Systems program, you’ll begin your education with core classes in technology, project management and business, then add studies in professional communications, quantitative analysis and how technology functions in society. You’ll gain experience with humanities and social sciences courses, as well as organizational theory, to enhance critical thinking. And you’ll have the option to dig deeper into subject matter through a concentration — consisting of three advanced courses plus one project course or equivalent research experience — that reflects your career goals. You can also explore your interests beyond information science with complementary program electives.

You’ll put your skills to practice with work opportunities on and off campus, including research and teaching assistantships, internships and immersive workshops. Semester-length, team-based projects bolster your confidence as you work in a team to manage complex projects — leading up to a junior year project where you’ll work with a small group to design and implement an operational information system solution for a client organization — facing realistic challenges and constraints of time, budget, changing expectations and organizational styles.

Additional opportunities for growth include conducting problem-driven research through independent study with a faculty member, study abroad and extracurricular activities. You may also pursue research at one of the university’s research centers, including Metro21 Smart Cities Institute, the Block Center for Technology and Society, the PwC Risk and Regulatory Services Innovation Center, and CyLab Security & Privacy Institute.

Alumni Accomplishments

Sarah Reyes-Franco (2018) serves as a product manager on Messages for Business at Apple leading the Apple Pay track of work.

Alice Borie (2016) is an engineering manager at Apple, overseeing the conversational experience with Siri and other Apple technology.

Lois Yang (2014) is product design lead at Meta (Facebook) and drives strategic projects that influence the app ecosystem at Meta.

Seth Vargo (2013) is a principal engineer at Google leading Alphabet’s public cloud adoption strategy.

Christine Lin (2011) works as the quality systems lead at Square, ensuring that software developed is fully compatible with Square hardware.

Noah Levin (2010) serves as the director of Design for Figma, the leading interface design tool used in the industry today.

40% of Information Systems students add a second major, and 65% add a minor.

AVG STARTING SALARY

$98,350

GRADUATE SUCCESS

100%

Employed or in grad school within six months of graduation

DATA AS OF JANUARY 2022
97% OF GRADUATES RESPONDING

RECENT EMPLOYERS

Amazon  Google
Apple  IBM
Capitol One  McKinsey
Deloitte  Microsoft
Goldman Sachs  Salesforce

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