

## • INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND DECISION SCIENCES (ISM)

### Information Systems (IS)

Success in today's fast paced business environment requires a solid understanding of information systems and the ability to use information technology to solve business problems. The Information Systems major provides students with an in-depth understanding of the many business applications of information and communication technologies, preparing them for careers in:

- programming
- business analysis
- systems development
- database or network administration
- systems support
- website development

Unlike many information technology programs, which are designed to develop only technical skills, the IS major focuses on the intersection of business and technology, developing graduates who are well-versed in the language of business, have strong communication skills, and know how to select, develop, implement, and manage new and emerging information technologies. Additionally, the IS major provides students seeking more general business careers with a set of highly marketable skills they can apply in any facet of business.

Core courses in the IS degree program are designed to develop students' information technology skills as well as their understanding of how technology is used to support managerial decision making and transform business operations. A variety of electives enable students to choose an area of specialization, learn about global information systems, or further develop their technical skills.

**Requirements for the B.A./B.S. Degree:** Within the 120-semester-hour program listed in the General Requirements section, students must complete a set of 5 required ISM courses and 3 approved ISM electives. ISM majors must earn a "C" or higher (not C-) in the five required ISM courses and must have a 2.0 or higher GPA in the major; they can use grade forgiveness for only one upper-level ISM course. At least 15 hours must be taken in residence at USFSP. A grade point average of 2.0 or higher must be achieved in all major course work at USF and an overall 2.0 GPA including transfer work.

Required ISM Courses:

ISM 3232	Business Application Development*	3
ISM 3113	Systems Analysis and Design*	3
ISM 4212	Database Administration	3
ISM 4220	Business Data Communications	3
ISM 4300	Managing Information Resources	3

Plus Approved ISM Electives**	<u>9</u>
Total Hours Required for B.A./B.S. Degree	24

\*ISM 3232 (Business Application Development) must be taken before, or concurrently with, ISM 3113 (Systems Analysis and Design), which is a prerequisite for all other required ISM courses.

\*\*No more than three hours of ISM 4950 can be counted as ISM electives. (ISM 4905 will not count as an ISM elective.)

**Requirements for a Minor in ISM (for Business majors only):** Students majoring in Business may minor in ISM. The requirements are:

1. ISM 3113	Systems Analysis and Design	3
ISM 4212	Database Administration	3
Approved ISM Elective		<u>6</u>
Total ISM hours		12

2. A grade point average of 2.0 or better must be achieved in the minor course work at USF and in all minor courses completed at other institutions.

3. At least 9 hours of the required 12 credit hours must be taken in residence at USFSP.