

Program Overview: Bachelor of Business Administration Information Systems Concentration

About This Major . . .

The Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree with a concentration in Information Systems combines business knowledge with a focus on the information systems skills needed by today's workforce. This degree is designed to prepare students for the challenges of information systems in today's organizations as well as the organizations of tomorrow. Graduates assist businesses with creating, obtaining, and maintaining computer information systems that are used to solve problems and assist in facilitating routine business processes. As businesses increasingly rely on technology to provide efficiency, employees with an understanding of both business concepts and computer systems are a necessity.

In the senior-level capstone course, students demonstrate their teamwork and acquired information systems knowledge and skills to create realistic projects for clients. Students also take the Information Systems Analyst (ISA) certification exam where an 80% qualifies a student for the professional certificate, a definite point of interest on a student's resume. The ISA exam pass rate for CMU CIS graduates has been 84.2% the last six years. The high ISA exam pass rate demonstrates the CIS programs are successful in meeting the primary objective: to educate and train information systems analysts. Oral presentations, written papers, and teamwork on the semester project all combine to present students with the knowledge and skills needed to manage information systems successfully in the future.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning.

In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Critical Thinking Skills: Apply business knowledge and skills in appropriate business contexts and transfer knowledge and skills to new business situations.
2. Communication Skills: Independently communicate clearly, appropriately, and persuasively to the audience, both orally and in writing.
3. Quantitative fluency: Analyze business data critically, reason logically, and apply quantitative analysis methods correctly to develop appropriate business conclusions.
4. Strategic Application of Information: Strategically apply information across functional business areas.
5. Team Work: Effectively work in a team.
6. General Business Knowledge: Integrate knowledge from multiple functional areas of business to solve business problems and to develop sound business strategies.
7. Work Products: Produce professional business work products.
8. Identify, formulate and correctly solve information systems problems. (Specialized Knowledge)

Program Highlights:

Graduates of this program currently hold the following positions: systems analyst, database administrator, network administrator, programmer/analyst, help desk specialist, and chief information officer.

At the National Association of Information Technology Professionals competition, students have won several top-ten awards annually, demonstrating the knowledge and skills acquired through this program.

Computer Heroes provides CIS students with an opportunity for hands-on experience. The campus and local community can bring in a "sick" computer and, for a donation, students fix the computer. Under the mentorship of faculty, students are able to combine classroom knowledge with practical application.

Internships are available for juniors and seniors at local, regional, and international companies.

Specialized classroom space allows students access to work with networks, servers, and computer hardware, as well as specialized software.

A solid base in business enables students to gain the necessary knowledge to work across the functional areas of business in today's global environment.



Program Requirements

A student must follow CMU graduation requirements by completing 120 semester credit hours, including 40 credits of coursework at the 300+ level. See the “Undergraduate Graduation Requirements” in the catalog for additional graduation information. Students should work closely with a faculty advisor when selecting and scheduling courses prior to registration. In general, CMU’s programs of study are based on two curriculum groups:

1. Essential Learning

CMU’s Essential Learning program provides the foundation of skills and information that cuts across all fields of study and the support for advanced concepts that students will later encounter in their majors. Before moving into work at the 300+ level, students complete the Maverick Milestone and its co-requirement, Essential Speech. This pair of courses is a capstone experience where students integrate what they have learned from their foundation courses by making connections among diverse areas of knowledge. The capstone is also an opportunity for students to work with disparate ideas, a critical skill expected of all CMU graduates that will aid them in solving the complex and unscripted problems they will encounter in their personal, professional, and civic lives.

2. What You Will Study in This Major. . .

Foundational Courses

These courses provide a solid basis for upper-division business classes and focus in functional areas. An exciting first class in the business program is Freshman Business Seminar which provides an overview of both the world of business and the Department of Business at CMU.

- Accounting
- Business Communications
- Economics
- Business Statistics
- Computer Information Literacy

Business Core Courses

These include the following functional areas.

- Management
- Marketing
- Finance
- Management Information Systems
- International Business
- Legal Environment of Business
- Human Resource Management

Concentration Requirements

These courses will provide the basis for study in the ever-evolving field of information systems. Analysis, critical thinking and communication are key skills any effective business person needs in today’s workplace.

Required

- Advanced Business Software
- Enterprise Architecture
- Information Systems Infrastructure
- Advanced Business Programming
- Project Management

Electives from which to choose

- Risk Management
- Advanced Managerial Accounting
- Solving Problems Using Spreadsheets
- Leadership

Electives

An option within the BBA for most concentrations is the ability for students to graduate with two concentrations within the required 120 hours.

The concentration in Information Systems allows students to combine strong business knowledge and skills with the needed information systems knowledge and skills to be successful in the business environment and a productive part of any business team.

Additionally, students choose electives from the following topics.

- Emerging Markets
- Business Ethics
- Big Questions in Business
- Project Management
- Compensation

For more information about this major, go to: <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/business/degrees.html> or contact the Academic Department Head for Business, 309 Dominguez Hall, 970.248.1778.