Information Systems (ISE)

Major and Minor in Information Systems

Department of Computer Science, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

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Information Systems (ISE)

The Information Systems major, which is housed in the Department of Computer Science, prepares its graduates to design and build computerized data processing and decision support systems. The program is technically oriented, emphasizing the design and implementation aspects of large-scale information systems as well as the more traditional managerial and organizational issues, and it balances development of system engineering skills with learning to deliver reliable systems on time and within budget. Throughout the program, students are exposed to diverse application areas ranging from traditional business, finance, and accounting through telecommunications, networks, multimedia, and database management, to computer-aided design and industrial production management systems.

Requirements for the Major and Minor in Information Systems (ISE)

Acceptance into the Information Systems Major

Qualified freshman and transfer applicants may be accepted directly into the Information Systems major upon admission to the University. Currently enrolled students may apply for acceptance to the major with a cumulative grade point average of 2.80 or higher and after the following condition has been met:

1. The student has completed at least 10 credits of required courses - CSE 114, mathematics, and WRT 102 with an average of 3.0 or higher and no grade below C.

Computer Science majors may switch to the Information Systems major provided they have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 2.80 or higher.

Enrolling in ISE Courses

To enroll in ISE courses, students must have completed all prerequisites with a grade of C or higher (Pass/No Credit grades are not acceptable to meet prerequisites). For transfer students, official transfer credit evaluations must have been completed and approved.

Failure to satisfy the prerequisites or to attend the first class may result in deregistration. The Pass/No Credit option is not available to ISE majors for ISE courses.

Requirements for the Major

The major in Information Systems leads to the Bachelor of Science degree. At least two of the courses under requirement A.2. below must be completed at Stony Brook.

Completion of the major requires approximately 64 credits.

A. Information Systems Courses:

1. Lower Division Courses
   • CSE 114 Computer Science I
   • CSE 214 Computer Science II
   • AMS 161 Applied Calculus II or CSE/ISE 215 Foundations of Computer Science
   • ISE 218 Fundamentals of Information Technology

2. Upper Division Courses:
   • ISE 312 Legal, Social, and Ethical Issues in Information Systems
   • ISE 305 Database Design and Practice
   • ISE 316 Introduction to Networking or CSE 310 Computer Networks
   • ISE 320 Information Management

3. Electives:

Four additional upper-division ISE courses. Note: ISE 475 may be considered among the ISE upper-division electives, but may only be counted once towards the ISE upper-division elective requirement.
B. Mathematics Courses

1. AMS 151 Applied Calculus I (or MAT 131 or MAT 141 or MAT 125, MAT 126)
2. AMS 210 Applied Linear Algebra or MAT 211 Introduction to Linear Algebra
3. AMS 310 Survey of Probability and Statistics or ECO 320 Mathematical Statistics

C. Specializations

Students must complete a specialization in one of the application areas listed below, or else design a specialization of six to eight courses in another application area in consultation with the ISE undergraduate director before the courses for the specialization are completed.

D. Upper-Division Writing Requirement: ISE 300 Technical Communications

All degree candidates must demonstrate technical writing skills at a level that would be acceptable in an industrial setting. To satisfy this requirement, students must pass ISE 300 Technical Communications, a course that requires various writing assignments, including at least one significant technical paper.

EST 304 Communication for Engineers and Scientists may be taken in lieu of ISE 300 to fulfill the ISE upper-division writing requirement.

Grading

All courses taken to satisfy Requirements A through D must be taken for a letter grade and completed with a grade of C or higher. A grade of C or higher is required in prerequisite courses listed for all CSE and ISE courses.

Specialization in Business and Economics

Students may take a specialization in Business and Economics consisting of the following courses:

1. Core Courses
   a. BUS 111 Introduction to Business for Non-Business Majors
   b. ECO 108 Introduction to Economics
   c. ACC 210 Financial Accounting

2. One of the following:
   - BUS 214 Managerial Accounting
   - BUS 346 Operations Management
   - BUS 349 Management Science
   - BUS 355 Investment Analysis
   - BUS 356 Financial Engineering
   - ECO 348 Analysis for Managerial Decision Making
   - ECO 389 Corporate Finance
   - ESE 201 Engineering and Technology Entrepreneurship
   - EST 392 Engineering and Managerial Economics
   - EST 393 Production and Operations Analysis

3. One of the following:
   - BUS 348 Principles of Marketing
   - ECO 326 Industrial Organization
   - ECO 345 Law and Economic Issues
   - POL 319 Business Laws
   - POL 359 Public Policy Analysis
   - POL 364 Organizational Decision Making
   - SOC 381 Sociology of Organizations

4. One of the following:
   - EST 302 Assessment of Computer-Based Technologies
   - EST 305 Applications Software in Information Management
   - EST 320 Communication Technology Systems
   - EST 325 Technology in the Workplace

Specialization in System & Network Administration

Students may take a specialization in System & Network Administration consisting of the following courses. Courses applied to the specialization may not be used toward requirements to satisfy the ISE major or minor.

1. CSE 310 Computer Networks or ISE 316 Introduction to Networking
2. ISE 311 System Administration
3. ISE 321 Network Administration
4. ISE 331 Computer Security or CSE 408 Network Security
5. ISE 337 Scripting Languages or CSE 337 Scripting Languages
6. ISE 488 Internship or ISE 487 Research in Information Systems

**Specialization in Technological Systems Management**
Students may take a specialization in Technological Systems Management consisting of the following courses.
1. Four required courses:
   a. EST 202 Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society Studies
   b. EST 391 Technology Assessment
   c. EST 392 Engineering and Managerial Economics
   d. EST 393 Project Management
2. Two elective courses from the following:
   • EST 310/ISE 340 Design of Computer Games
   • EST 320 Communication Technology Systems
   • EST 323/ISE 323 Human-Computer Interaction
   • EST 326 Management for Engineers
   • EST 327 Marketing for Engineers
   • EST 421 Starting the High-Technology Venture

Note: Courses cross-listed between ISE and EST may be taken either as ISE electives (Item A.3) or as TSM specialization electives (Item C).

**Specialization in Other Application Areas**
A student may design a specialization in another application area of information systems in consultation with the ISE undergraduate director before the courses for the specialization are completed.

**Requirements for the Minor**
The minor in Information Systems is open to all students not majoring in either Computer Science or Information Systems or minoring in Computer Science. To declare the minor in Information Systems, students must complete ISE 108 with a grade of C or higher and possess a cumulative grade point average of 2.80 or higher. The minor requires seven courses totaling 21 credits as outlined below:

1. ISE 108 Introduction to Programming or CSE 110 Introduction to Computer Science
2. CSE 114 Computer Science I
3. ISE 218 Fundamentals of Information Technology
4. Four electives totaling at least twelve credits. Electives must include nine credits of upper-division courses and at least nine credits of CSE or ISE courses. Approved courses include most ISE/CSE courses and other courses relevant to Information Systems. Consult with the ISE Undergraduate Program Director on the suitability of an elective course prior to registration.

Note: All courses above must be passed with a grade of C or higher

**Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Information Systems**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FRESHMAN</strong></th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year Seminar 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRT 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISE 108 (TECH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMS 151 (QPS)</td>
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<td>SBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Year Seminar 102</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRT 102 (WRT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSE 114 (TECH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBC course</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sophomore</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
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<td>ISE 218</td>
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<td>AMS 210 (STEM+)</td>
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<td>CSE 214</td>
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<td>ISE 320</td>
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<td>ISE 305</td>
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<td>CSE 310</td>
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<td>ISE 300 (SPK, WRTD)</td>
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<td>ISE 301 (STAS)</td>
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<td>ISE Elective</td>
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<td>Specialization course</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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ISE

Information Systems

ISE 102: Introduction to Web Design and Programming
An introduction to the design of Web pages, specifically the development of browser and device independent HTML, with an emphasis on the XHTML standards. Includes the use of style sheets (CSS) and tools for page layout and verification. HTML is presented as a mark-up language, exploring the rules of HTML elements and attributes. Students learn the separation of page viewing information from the HTML through CSS style sheets as well as the use of block layout without using HTML tables. Addresses HTML display properties including text, color, image, and graphic elements as well as approaches to HTML validation and techniques.
Advisory Prerequisite: CSE 101 or basic computer skills
SBC: TECH
3 credits

ISE 108: Introduction to Programming
Introduces computer programming at a level suitable for those with no prior programming experiences, including liberal arts and humanities majors. Programming exercises involve state-of-the-art visual applications. Topics include problem-solving techniques, object-oriented design, and programming concepts such as conditionals, iteration, arrays, and modularity.
SBC: TECH
3 credits

ISE 208: Intermediate Programming
Teaches programming and system design techniques with an emphasis on applications to business. Topics include object-oriented design techniques, testing and debugging, data structures, recursion, and exception-handling. Uses the Java programming language.
Prerequisite: ISE 108
3 credits

ISE 215: Foundations of Computer Science
Introduction to the logical and mathematical foundations of computer science. Topics include functions, relations, and sets; recursion and functional programming; elementary logic; and mathematical induction and other proof techniques.
Prerequisite: AMS 151 or MAT 125 or MAT 131
3 credits

ISE 218: Fundamentals of Information Technology
This course introduces the fundamentals of Information Technology (IT) to students interested in the relationship between computer hardware, software, networks, and information systems. The course examines components found in high use computing devices such as desktop computers, smart phones, and navigation systems. The focus of the examination is understanding the underlying technology of each component, along with price/performance curves and competing technologies. Upon completion of the course, students should be proficient in reading device specifications, particularly functional and performance implications. Students should also be able to use that knowledge to compare competing devices.
Prerequisite: Level 4 or higher on the mathematics placement examination; U2 standing or higher
3 credits

ISE 300: Technical Communications
Principles of professional technical communications for Computer Science and Information Systems majors. Topics include writing business communications, user manuals, press releases, literature reviews, and research abstracts. Persuasive oral communications and effective presentation techniques, to address a range of audiences, will also be covered. This course satisfies the upper-division writing requirement for CSE and ISE majors.
Prerequisites: WRT 102, CSE or ISE major, U3 or U4 standing
SBC: SPK, WRTD
3 credits

ISE 301: History of Computing
A study of the history of computational devices from the early ages through the end of the 20th century. Topics include needs for computation in ancient times, development of computational models and devices through the 1800's and early 1900's, World War II and the development of the first modern computer, and early uses in business. Creation of programming languages and the microchip. Societal changes in computer usage due to the microcomputer, emergence of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and mobile computing. Legal and social impacts of modern computing. Cannot be used as a technical elective for the CSE major or minor. This course is offered as both CSE 301 and ISE 301.
Prerequisite: U2 standing or higher
Advisory Prerequisite: one course in computing
DEC: E or SNW course
SBC: CER, ESI, STAS
3 credits

ISE 305: Database Design and Practice
The design of database applications including Entity-Relationship data modeling, the relational data model, the SQL database query language, application development, and database administration. Students will complete a project that includes designing a database application and implementing it using database development tools.
Prerequisite: ISE 208 or CSE 114 or CSE 230
SBC: EXP+, TECH
3 credits

ISE 311: Systems Administration
This course covers practical techniques to manage information systems, also known as IT Systems Administration. Students will learn how to install computers for assorted hardware and software platforms (Windows, Unix/Linux, OS-X). Install networking equipment and configure it. Install server software on several systems (e.g. web, database, mail) and configure it. Secure the network, hosts, and services, and apply system patches. Set up redundant computing services, virtual machines/services, and hardware so that services can survive some hardware/software failures. Evaluate the performance, reliability, and security of the overall system.
Prerequisites: CSE 214 or CSE 230 or CSE 260 or ISE 208
3 credits

ISE 312: Legal, Social, and Ethical Issues in Information Systems
This course deals with the impact of computers on us as individuals and on our society. Rapid changes in computing technology and in our use of that technology have changed the way we work, play, and interact with other people. These changes have created a flood of new social and legal issues that demand critical examination. For example, technologies such as Gmail, Facebook, MySpace, along with music sharing sites and wikis create new social, ethical, and legal issues. This course is offered as both CSE 312 and ISE 312.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing, one D.E.C. E or SNW course
SBC: CER, ESI, STAS
3 credits
ISE 315: Database Transaction Processing Systems
Theory and practice of design for applications involving transactional access to a database. Transaction design, schema design, restart and recovery, journaling, concurrency control, distributed databases. Student groups perform design and implementation of significant database application. 
Prerequisite: CSE or ISE 305 
3 credits

ISE 316: Introduction to Networking
This course introduces the principles of computer networks, including network architectures, algorithms, and performance, with the TCP/IP based Internet as an example. It examines various networking protocols at different layers of the Internet protocol stack, including those at the application, transport, network, and the data link layers, respectively. May not be taken for credit in addition to CSE 310 and CSE 346/ISE 346. 
Prerequisites: CSE 114 or ISE 208; Level 4 or higher on the mathematics placement exam or MAT 123
3 credits

ISE 317: Computer Networking II
Today's computer networks have become an infrastructure as essential as utility networks such as the transportation network and the national grid of electricity. A wide variety of networking technologies are deployed to support nearly every sector of the society. Among these technologies, those that are related to wireless and mobile networking, multimedia networking, as well as network security are among the most popular and important. After learning fundamental concepts and protocols in computer networks from the first networks course, this second computer network course examines more practical and advanced topics in computer networking. In addition to those mentioned above, we will also study advanced routing algorithms in computer networks and network management. Both are critical tasks for corporations such as network service providers and for individual professionals such as network administrators. 
Prerequisites: ISE 316 or CSE 310; ISE or CSE major
3 credits

ISE 320: Information Management
The course presents the relationship between information technology and the systems that use the technology. The emphasis is on business systems with a high information technology components (e.g. software developments, communications, financial management, etc.). Topics include infrastructure management, information management, security, and communications. Emphasis is given to case studies relating to information management. 
Prerequisite: U2 Standing 
3 credits

ISE 321: Introduction to Network Administration
The course introduces students to the fundamentals of network management, primarily for TCP/IP networks. Students are introduced to networking protocols, hardware, architecture, media, and software and experience hands-on management of typical network components. Various network protocols are examined, including Internet routing protocols. Network security is introduced in the overall context of network management. 
Prerequisite: ISE 316 or CSE 310 
3 credits

ISE 322: Human-Computer Interaction
A survey course designed to introduce students to Human-Computer Interaction and prepare them for further study in the specialized topics of their choice. Students will have the opportunity to delve deeper in the course through a course project, and through a two-three week special topic selected at the instructor's discretion. Course is cross-listed as CSE 323, EST 323 and ISE 323. 
Prerequisites: CSE 214 or CSE 230 or CSE 260 or ISE 208
3 credits

ISE 325: Computers and Sculpture
This multidisciplinary class surveys how computer science and computer technology are used in sculpture. Case studies with slides, videos, and software demonstrations illustrate a range of approaches of sculptors incorporating computers in their creative process. Various state-of-the-art fabrication technologies are studied (with site visits if available on campus). Mathematical foundations are emphasized so students can recognize them when analyzing sculpture and choose the right tool when designing. In the weekly laboratory, these ideas are reinforced with projects using a range of available software and inexpensive construction materials, e.g., paper, cardboard, and foamcore.
Prerequisite: CSE 110 or permission of instructor
3 credits

ISE 331: Fundamentals of Computer Security
The course will introduce the concepts and terminology of computer security in addition to describing attacks against computer infrastructure and typical defenses against such attacks. The course will outline security policies and procedures used by enterprises and will introduce tools and techniques used by both attackers and defenders. 
Prerequisite: ISE 218 
Corequisite: ISE 316
3 credits

ISE 332: Introduction to Visualization
Visualization of scientific, engineering, medical, and business data sets. Mechanisms to acquire sampled, computed, or synthetic data and methods to transform symbolic into the visual. Topics include classic visualization process; visual perception; volume and surface visualization; methods for visualizing sampled, simulated, and geometric objects; and visualization systems. Emphasis on applications and case studies. This course is offered as both CSE 332 and ISE 332. 
Prerequisites: CSE 219 or CSE 260; MAT 211 or AMS 210
3 credits

ISE 334: Introduction to Multimedia Systems
Survey of technologies available for user interfaces. Discussion of hypertext; voice, music, and video together with tools and models for capturing, editing, presenting, and combining them. Capabilities and characteristics of a range of peripheral devices including devices based on posture, gesture, head movement, and touch. Case studies of academic and commercial multimedia systems including virtual reality systems. Students participate in laboratory exercises and build a multimedia project. This course is offered as both CSE 334 and ISE 334. 
Prerequisite: U2, U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

ISE 337: Scripting Languages
Scripting languages are widely used in the IT industry. Programming with scripting languages, also known as scripting, has several advantages compared to programming with other types of languages in that scripts facilitate rapid program development; can automate high-level jobs or tasks very effectively; and can be used to compose various software components, even binaries, into more complex and powerful applications. This course introduces the principles of scripting, covers one or two selected scripting...
ISE 378: Introduction to Robotics
Introduces basic concepts in robotics including coordinate transformation, kinematics, dynamics, Laplace transforms, equations of motion, feedback and feedforward control, and trajectory planning. Covers simple and complex sensors (such as cameras), hybrid and behavior based control and path planning. Concepts are illustrated through laboratories using the LEGO Robot Kit.
Prerequisites: AMS 161 or MAT 127 or 132 or 142; AMS 210 or MAT 211 or MEC 262
3 credits

ISE 390: Special Topics in Information Systems
Lecture or seminar course on a current topic in information systems. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated as the topic changes, but cannot be used more than twice to satisfy ISE major requirements.
Prerequisite: ISE major or ISE minor
3 credits

ISE 391: Special Topics in Information Systems
Lecture or seminar course on a current topic in information systems. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated as the topic changes, but cannot be used more than twice to satisfy ISE major requirements.
Prerequisite: ISE major or ISE minor
3 credits

ISE 392: Special Topics in Information Systems
Lecture or seminar course on a current topic in information systems. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated as the topic changes, but cannot be used more than twice to satisfy ISE major requirements.
Prerequisite: ISE major or ISE minor
3 credits

ISE 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum
Students assist faculty by conducting a recitation or laboratory section that supplements a lecture course. The student receives regularly scheduled supervision from the faculty advisor. May be repeated once, but only one completion of the course will count towards the ISE upper division elective requirement.
Prerequisites: U4 standing as an undergraduate CEAS major; a minimum g.p.a. of 3.00 in all Stony Brook courses; grade of B or better in the course in which the student is to assist; or permission of department
SBC: EXP+
3 credits

ISE 487: Research in Information Systems
An independent research project with faculty supervision. Only three credits of research electives (AMS 487, BME 499, CSE 487, ESE 499, ESM 499, EST 499, ISE 487, MEC 499) may be counted toward technical elective requirements. May not be taken for more than six credits.
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and department
0-6 credits

ISE 488: Information Systems Internship
Participation in local, state, national, or international private enterprises, public agencies, or nonprofit institutions. Students are required to submit a written proposal, progress reports, and a final report on their experience to the client and to the department. May be repeated up to a limit of 12 credits but only 3 credits of CSE or ISE 488 may be used as an elective to satisfy ISE major requirements.
Prerequisites: ISE major; U3 or U4 standing; permission of faculty sponsor and department
SBC: EXP+
3 credits, S/U grading