



Bachelor of Science Information Sciences and Technology



» About the program

The Information Sciences and Technology major will help students understand how people use technology and revolutionize the role it plays in changing the way individuals live, work, and play. Students will build an understanding of core information technologies, learn the practical application of various information technologies, and sharpen their abilities to think critically and work in teams. The major explores how to integrate information technology across different systems to meet organizational goals and improve reliability, accessibility, and efficiency.

» Characteristics of successful Information Sciences and Technology students

Analytical • Collaborative • Detail-oriented • Logical • Perceptive • Strategic thinkers • Strong communicators

» Entrance to major requirements

Students typically choose their major by the end of their second year. To enter this major, students must:

- » meet a minimum cumulative GPA,
- » fall within a specific credit window, and
- » complete required courses.

IST academic advisers collaborate with enrolled students to help them understand and meet the entrance to major requirements and stay on track for graduation.

For more information about entrance to major requirements and to review a recommended academic plan, visit ist.psu.edu/etm.

Options within this major

Students can select from one of two options within the Information Sciences and Technology major to further focus their course of study.

» Integration and Application

Help organizations operate more effectively and efficiently by implementing technology-based solutions. Students will take on a big picture mindset to analyze the needs of an organization, integrate seamless information sharing, and evaluate outcomes. With theoretical knowledge and the ability to implement systems, students will revolutionize the way work is done by improving system reliability, accessibility, and efficiency.

» People, Organizations, and Society

Study how technology can be used to better structure organizations, how people influence the design and use of information technology, and how it is connected to broader social issues. Whether it's exploring how smartphones are transforming the way we communicate or how we assess online information to make decisions, students will investigate the human side of technology.

INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

College of Information Sciences and Technology
Office of Undergraduate Academic Services
Current Students: advising@ist.psu.edu
Prospective Students: futurestudents@ist.psu.edu
Toll-free: 866-225-8707

Both options in the Information Sciences and Technology major require the completion of prescribed coursework, with some credits earned through required courses common across both options, other credits selected by students from a defined list, and remaining credits selected by the student from different categories. Each option also requires students to earn additional credits through courses that will expand their skills in an area of focus.

ADDITIONAL PRESCRIBED COURSES

Regardless of their selected option, students pursuing an IST degree must complete credits earned through a combination of required courses and courses selected by the student from a defined list. These credits distinguish the student's focus of study and include courses, such as:

Integration and Application option

» **IST 302 – IT Project Management**

Explore the key phases of the project life cycle and apply the concepts and practices of project management to information technology. Utilize methodologies, tools, and technology applications to define project scope, create workable project plans, and address real-world problems.

» **IST 420 – Fundamentals of Systems and Enterprise Integration**

Learn the role of information systems and technologies in achieving a variety of business goals. Review the theories and skills required for planning, developing, implementing, and managing the integration of information technology and different systems.

People, Organizations, and Society option

» **IST 431 – The Information Environment**

Understand the economic, legal, ethical, and social issues of today's global information technology environment. Discuss the policy and communication implications of emerging technologies.

» **IST 432 – Legal and Regulatory Environment of IST**

Examine the legal, regulatory, and political environment of the digital economy to understand how new technologies impact these areas. Discuss how legal and business practices must adapt to support these advances.

Our graduates are in high demand.

Graduates from the College of IST have technical expertise and business savvy, giving them the versatility employers want.

Their unique skills add value to every field as the need for professionals who can bring IT knowledge to businesses and organizations grows.

And through the college's required internship program, IST students gain valuable real-world experience that helps them earn an average starting salary of \$68,000.

Pursue meaningful and diverse careers.

With two annual career fairs and more than 300 companies actively recruiting College of IST students, graduates are prepared for careers like:

- » Business Technology Analyst
- » Database Administrator
- » IT Project Manager
- » Network Engineer
- » Programmer Analyst
- » Systems Engineer
- » Technology Risk Consultant



"There are so many career opportunities available to IST majors. It's great to be in this program as technology is evolving because you see what trends are coming up and what trends are happening now."

» **Genesis Dubon, Class of 2020**



Learn more at ist.psu.edu/DiscoverIST



PennState
College of Information
Sciences and Technology

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