

Master of Science: Information Systems 2021-2022 Advising Check Sheet

The 42-credit MSIS curriculum includes a 9-credit primary core requirement, a 12-credit secondary core requirement across two core areas, 12 to 18 credits of electives, a non-credit graduate seminar, and a 3 to 9-credit exit requirement.

The curriculum, typically completed within 2 years, combines core classes with electives to give students a strong foundation in information systems along with the freedom to pursue courses that interest them. Our graduates learn to approach challenges with strategic vision, while ensuring that technology solutions integrate with enterprise goals.

Primary Core: 9 credits

IST 614 and IST 621 must be taken the first semester of the student's program, unless specifically advised otherwise. IST 618 must be taken in the second semester of the student's program.

Class #	Course Title	Completed
IST 614	Management Principles for Information Professionals*	
IST 618	Information Policy*	
IST 621	Information Management and Technology*	

Secondary Core: 12 Credits

Students need to choose two courses, or six credits, from each track in the secondary core.

Management Strategies and Users Track: 6 credits

Class #	Course Title	Completed
IST 617	Motivational Aspects of Information Use	
IST 619	Economics of Digital Transformation	
IST 625	Enterprise Risk Management*	
IST 645	Managing Information Systems Projects*	
IST 649	Human Interaction with Computers	
IST 654	Information Systems Analysis*	
IST 662	Instructional Strategies and Techniques for Information Professionals*	
IST 726	Enterprise Architecture: Concepts and Practice	

Technological Infrastructure Track: 6 credits

Class #	Course Title	Completed
IST 615	Cloud Management*	
IST 623	Introduction to Information Security*	
IST 639	Enterprise Technologies	
IST 651	Scripting for Enterprise Data Systems	
IST 659	Data Administration Concepts and Database Management*	
IST 687	Introduction to Data Science*	

Electives: 12-18 Credits

All graduate-level iSchool IST courses are acceptable electives towards the MSIS program. Every semester, the iSchool offers "Selected Topics" courses, listed as IST 600 or IST 700, which can count towards the program. These courses are offered based on sufficient interest of a topic and not covered by standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester. In addition, students *can take up to six elective credits* from other schools at Syracuse University, such as the Whitman School of Management and the College of Engineering and Computer Science. No more than six credits of non-IST classes will count towards the program.

Graduate Seminar: Non- Credit, Required

The Graduate Seminar is a residential workshop that presents emerging topics in the information studies field, designed to bring together students from all graduate programs in the school. Three seminars are delivered each year. Students in the MSIS program must complete one seminar during the duration of their program of studies. For information on dates and topics, visit <https://ischool.syr.edu/academics/graduate-seminars/>.

Exit Requirement: 3 to 9 credits

Students register for IST 755, the MSIS Capstone course, after the successful completion of IST 614 and at least 24 credits in the degree program. Students register for IST 765, the MSIS Research Capstone course, after the successful completion of IST 614, IST 671, and at least 24 credits in the degree program. IST 765 is intended for students who wish to complete a research project in the area of enterprise digital transformation, under faculty supervision, and in place of IST 755. Students register for IST 971 halfway through their program of study. For IST 971, *students with little or no appropriate experience* as information professionals must register for at least 2 credits and no more than 6 credits of internship credits.

Class #	Course Title	Completed
IST 755	Strategic Management of Information Resources* OR	
IST 765	Information Systems Research Capstone AND	
IST 971	Internship In Information Studies(1 to 6 credits)	

Guidelines for Credit Reductions and Substitutions

It is recognized that students who have had at least one year of full-time professional experience in the information technology field may have had significant work emphasis in either technical or managerial activities. Depending upon how much, and which type, of work experience the student has had, some courses in the IS program may be redundant with that experience. In an effort to promote the learning of new concepts in more depth, the following guidelines will be used to approve petitions to substitute work experience for certain program requirements or courses:

Students with a minimum of one full year of full-time professional experience in IT:

Students with one or more years of full-time professional experience in the information technology field may petition to substitute the internship requirement, IST 971, with any 3-credit course that would normally count toward any program requirement. A current resume is required and joining-leaving letters may also be requested and audited. If students elect this substitution of the internship requirement with a course, they may not count any additional internship credits taken toward the program requirements. All other program requirements will remain standard, and total program credits must equal 42.

Advising Evaluations for Students with a minimum of three full years of full-time professional experience in IT:

Students with three years or more of full-time professional experience in the information technology field may request to have a formal evaluation of their experience by an advisor, which must then be reviewed and approved by the Program Director. The goal of this evaluation is to determine which courses in the IS program from either List A or List B below are most redundant with their prior work experience. A current resume and joining-leaving letters from employers are required and may be audited.

List A: Courses that involve fundamental technical concepts (all are three credits):

- IST 623 - Introduction to Information Security
- IST 639 - Enterprise Technologies
- IST 651 - Scripting for Ent Data Sys
- IST 659 - Data Administration Concepts and Database Management

List B: Courses that involve fundamental managerial concepts (all are three credits):

- IST 614 - Management Principles for Information Professionals
- IST 645 - Managing Information Systems Projects
- IST 654 - Information Systems Analysis

**classes are also available as online classes in the quarter terms calendar, offered in partnership with 2SU. There are restrictions on these courses for specific groups of students so please reach out to your advisor for more information.*

Students with an approved advising evaluation of a minimum of three years, but less than six years, of full-time professional experience in the information technology field may petition to:

1. Substitute one 3-credit course, selected in accordance with their advising evaluation from either List A or List B, with prior work experience, and
2. Optionally substitute the internship requirement, IST 971, with any 3-credit course that would normally count toward any program requirement. If students elect this internship substitution, they may not count any internship credits taken toward program requirements.

All other program requirements will remain standard, and total program credits, including the approved petition for substitution of one selected course (3 credits) with work experience, must equal 42.

Students with an approved advising evaluation of a minimum of six years of full-time professional experience in the information technology field may petition to:

- 1) Substitute two 3-credit courses, or 6 credits, selected in accordance with their advising evaluation from either List A or List B, with prior work experience, and
- 2) Optionally substitute the internship requirement, IST 971, with any 3-credit course that would normally count toward any program requirement. If students elect this internship substitution, they may not count any internship credits taken toward program requirements.

All other program requirements will remain standard, and total program credits, including the approved petition for substitution of up to two selected courses (6 credits) with work experience, must equal 42.

Students with an approved advising evaluation of a minimum of six years of full-time professional experience in the information technology field, and who have demonstrated leadership growth through a record of continuously increasing job responsibilities from technical to managerial should consult the Program Director regarding the possibility of more advanced program alternatives.

**classes are also available as online classes in the quarter terms calendar, offered in partnership with 2SU. There are restrictions on these courses for specific groups of students so please reach out to your advisor for more information.*