INFORMATION SYSTEMS

What is Information Systems? (from http://www.albright.edu/catalog/infocon.html)

There continues to be an increasing demand for college graduates who possess an information systems (IS) degree. Projections are for the need to be further unmet over the next several years as the gap widens for supplying skilled individuals to IS jobs. We are faced with a major shortage, not only with providing players with these needed skills, but also with providing new leadership in burgeoning areas as IS has moved into the mainstream of our economic culture. Globalization of business markets adds the need for communication and project teamwork. To become a part of a graduate’s repertoire. Exhibiting the knowledge and skills that such an IS degree requires, graduates can expect to be in strong positions to compete for managerial and analytical positions in many fields, including software design, database management, network consulting and e-commerce business.

What is this career like? (from http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos287.htm)

“Computer systems analysts study an organization’s current computer systems and procedures and design information systems solutions to help the organization operate more efficiently and effectively. They bring business and information technology (IT) together by understanding the needs and limitations of both. Computer systems analysts use a variety of techniques to design computer systems such as data-modeling, which create rules for the computer to follow when presenting data, thereby allowing analysts to make faster decisions. Analysts conduct in-depth tests and analyze information and trends in the data to increase a system’s performance and efficiency.”

Related Career Titles (from http://uncw.edu/career/informationsystems.html)

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<tr>
<th>Analyst/Programmer</th>
<th>Information Systems Developer</th>
<th>Network Administrator/Manager</th>
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<tr>
<td>Applications Programmer</td>
<td>Information Systems Manager</td>
<td>On-Line Services Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications Specialist</td>
<td>Information Technology Mgr.</td>
<td>Operating Systems Programmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Aided Software Engineering Specialist</td>
<td>Internet Developer</td>
<td>Operations Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Security Analyst</td>
<td>Internet Marketing Analyst</td>
<td>Operations Researcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Systems Hardware Analyst</td>
<td>Inventory Control Specialist</td>
<td>PC Support Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultant</td>
<td>Materials Manager</td>
<td>Records Management Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Communications Analyst</td>
<td>Medical Systems Designer</td>
<td>Relocation Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Security Analyst</td>
<td>Microcomputer/Workstation</td>
<td>Software Tester</td>
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How can you get ready? (from http://career.utk.edu/students/majors.asp)

- Be aware that careers in computers and technology are constantly changing.
- Be prepared to retrain and learn new information on a regular basis.
- Certifications are often an important part of training for technical careers. Obtain the certifications that are the most applicable to career goals and interests.
- Gain as much diverse technical experience as possible. Seek positions in computer labs, retail computer/technology stores, or as technological support for any office or business.
- Learn about technology in additional areas such as audio/visual or telecommunications. Become familiar with the integration and application of these areas to management information systems.
- Develop physical stamina and strength. Many networking professionals are involved in hands-on, physical activity during network installation and maintenance.

Related Major Skills (http://uncw.edu/career/informationsystems.html)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Reading comprehension</th>
<th>Active listening skills</th>
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<td>Math &amp; science skills</td>
<td>Critical thinking</td>
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<td>Different learning strategies</td>
<td>Giving advice on business or research</td>
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<td>Research</td>
<td>Ability to prepare technical reports</td>
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<td>Design systems</td>
<td>Work independently and on a team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral &amp; written communication skills</td>
<td>Active learner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding of computer programs</td>
<td>Investigating data to solve problems</td>
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What about the future?

“Employment of computer systems analysts is projected to grow 25 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. As organizations across the economy increase their reliance on information technology (IT), analysts will be hired to design and install new computer systems. Growth in cloud-computing, wireless, and mobile networks will create a need for new systems that work well with these networks.”

To learn more about a specific career, please go to http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Available at Albright College Career Development’s Resource Library

- Great Jobs for Computer Science Majors, by Jan Goldberg
Career Opportunities in Computers and Cyberspace, by Harry Henderson
Careers for Computer Buffs and Other Technological Types, by Marjorie Eberts and Margaret Gisler
Careers for Cybersurfers and Other Online Types, by Marjorie Eberts and Rachel Kelsey
Careers for Introverts and Other Solitary Types, by Blythe Camenson
Careers for Geniuses and Other Gifted Types, Jan Goldberg
Careers for Puzzle Solvers and Other Methodical Thinkers, by Jan Goldberg
Careers for Scientific Types and Others with Inquiring Minds, by Jan Goldberg
Opportunities in Adult Education Careers, by Blythe Camenson
Opportunities in Computer Careers, by Julie Kling Burns
Opportunities in High Tech Careers, by Deborah Yanuck and Gary Golter
Opportunities in Library and Information Science Careers, by Kathleen de la Pena McCook
Opportunities in Research and Development Careers, by Jan Goldberg
Opportunities in Teaching Careers, by Janet Fine
Opportunities in Technical Education Careers, by Robert Connelly
Opportunities in Technical Writing and Communication Careers, by Jay R. Gould and Wayne A. Losano
Opportunities in Telecommunications Careers, by Jan Bone
Opportunities in Training and Development Careers, by Edward E. Gordon, Catherine M. Petrini, and Ann P. Campagna

Disclaimer
Links to Internet sites are provided for your convenience and do not constitute an endorsement by Albright College Experiential Learning and Career Development Center.

Job and Internship Search Links

- Tech-Centric http://www.tech-centric.net
- Just Tech Jobs http://www.justtechjobs.com
- Career Marketplace http://www.careermarketplace.com
- Fish4Jobs http://www.fish4.co.uk/it/

Career Planning Links

- Vocational Information Center http://www.khake.com/page17.html

Professional Associations Links

- Association for Information Systems http://www.aisnet.org/
- Institute of Operations Management http://www.iomnet.org.uk
- Association for Computing Machinery http://www.acm.org
- Institute for Certification of Computing Professionals http://www.iccp.org
- Internet Society http://www.internetsociety.org/
- Association for Women in Computing http://www.awc-hq.org
- Computing Research Association http://cra.org
- Association for Technology Professionals http://www.aitp.org
- Information Systems Audit and Control Association http://www.isaca.org
- Society for Technical Communication http://www.stc.org/