University of Delaware

Lerner College of Business and Economics

Department of Accounting & Management Information Systems (MIS)

Masters of Science in Information Systems & Technology Management (ISTM)

PROGRAM POLICY STATEMENT

I. 4+1 Accelerated Master of Science in Information Systems & Technology Management (ISTM) degree program (BS Accounting and MS ISTM)

The Department of Accounting and Management Information Systems (MIS) offers a program of study leading to the Masters of Science degree in Information Systems & Technology Management (ISTM). The program offers study to outstanding candidates with backgrounds in business (such as Accounting) or technical areas such as management information systems, computer science or engineering. The MS in ISTM program prepares students to become innovative leaders by mastering technology and managing people.

This MS in ISTM program qualifies as a Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) Optional Practical Training (OPT) program, which allows international students in a technical field to apply for a 17-month extension to their OPT period.

Students may attend on a part-time or full-time schedule. The estimated time to completion for a full-time student is 16 - 21 months.

II. Admission requirements and procedures

Minimum requirements for admission to the 4+1 Accelerated MS in ISTM degree program are the following:
- Undergraduate GPA 3.0 in the major field of study
- GMAT not required for Accounting students
- TOEFL not required for UD undergraduates
- Internship preferable

  Applicants must upload the following to the online application:
- UD transcript
- Provide a statement of objectives and interests
- One essay
- Two letters of recommendation
- Resume

Admission to the graduate program is selective and competitive based on the number of well-qualified applicants and the limits of available faculty and facilities.

Those who meet stated minimum requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet all of the requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer other appropriate strengths.

Admission will be decided by the Graduate Director in consultation with an admission committee (composed of faculty who participate in the program).

Application for fellowship, tuition scholarship, or assistantship financial aid is a part of the admission application form and is made at the time of application.

III. Academics

Students choose 10 of the following courses for a total of 30 credits.

ACCT 602 Big Data Technologies
BUAD 621 Decision Analytics and Visualization
BUAD 622 Optimization and Spreadsheet Modelling
BUAD 625 Business Analytics Capstone
BUAD 820 Fundamentals of Analytics
BUAD 893 Digital Marketing Analytics
MISY 615 Enterprise Architecture: Digitally Transforming Business
MISY 631 Data Mining for Business Analytics
MISY 655 Ethics in Technology Management
MISY 675 Dashboard Design and Storytelling
MISY 830 Business Intelligence and Analytics
MISY 840 Project Management and Costing
MISY 850 Security and Control
MISY 873 Information Technology and Organizational Effectiveness
CPEG 665 Introduction to Cybersecurity
STAT 674 Applied Data Base Management (SAS)
Other courses can be chosen with approval from the program director.

Substitutions
Students may petition the Program Director for variance in degree requirements based on previous degrees completed. This should be done in writing (email is acceptable) to the Program Director. Permission and course substitutions will be determined by the Program Director, in consultation with a committee (composed of faculty who participate in the program).

English language expectation
Students are expected to have a sufficient level of oral and written English communication skill to be successful in department coursework. Those students with an assistantship that involves teaching or research should have a sufficient level of English

oral communication skill to be comfortably understood by the students they teach and the faculty member with whom they work.

Progress towards the degree
Students may enroll full or part-time. The Program Director will create a recommended program for each student and students are expected to remain in contact with the Program Director during their time in the program.

GPA requirements are monitored by the Office of Professional and Graduate Education according to the Graduate Studies Academic Probation Policy. Graduate students will be evaluated in courses according to the University grading policy and must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 to remain in good academic standing.

IV. Funding Policies/Financial aid

Funding is awarded to applicants and continuing students on a limited and competitive basis.

1. Incoming students are awarded funding on the following basis:
- The availability of funded assistantships
- The quality and completeness of the student's application
- The internship experience and background of the student in information systems
- Adherence to Departmental and University policy

2. Funding in the second year is unusual and not guaranteed. Students could be awarded funding in the second year on the following basis:
- The availability of funded assistantships
- Performance in the first year of a funded assistantship based on faculty evaluations
- Full compliance with the University's Code of Conduct
- Performance in the first year of the MS in ISTM program
- Adherence to Departmental and University policy

Students can only accept one funding offer at a time.

The Department does not award 3rd year funded assistantships to ISTM students.

V. Departmental operations

Upon matriculation, students are expected to provide up-to-date address, telephone, and email information in UDSIS and to update them as necessary throughout the time they are enrolled in the MS in ISTM program.

It is especially important that students activate their University of Delaware email account, and arrange for messages to the UD email account to be forwarded to email accounts with other providers (e.g. yahoo, hotmail, or gmail), if the student uses the outside account as his/her mail email account.

Students are responsible for being familiar with the University Academic Regulations for Graduate Students published in the Graduate Catalog.

VI. Department of Accounting and MIS, 4+1 Option for MS ISTM

The objective of the 4+1 option is to provide high quality management information students graduate education by providing efficient solutions to receive their graduate degree and the ability to gain expertise in the field of business analytics. The program allows integration of graduate and undergraduate studies with the goal of completing both a Bachelor's and Master's degree within 5 years.

1. Admission Criteria

Students would typically apply for admission to the 4+1 program at or near the conclusion of the first semester of their senior year. Initial admittance would be based on the following entrance criteria:
   a. Candidates should have a 3.0 undergraduate GPA.
   b. Completion of Accounting courses with a grade of C or higher.
   c. Completion of all courses specified for the freshman and sophomore years in the concentration area of study.
   d. TOEFL scores, if applicable, that are consistent with minimum graduate admittance criteria.

1. Application Process and Procedures

Applicants must submit one UD transcript, provide a statement of objectives and interests, and have two recommendation forms completed by appropriate mentors and uploaded to the online application process.

Admission to the graduate program is selective and competitive based on the number of well-qualified applicants and the limits of available faculty and facilities. Those who meet stated minimum requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet all of the requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer other appropriate strengths. Admission will be decided by the Graduate Director, in consultation with an admission committee (composed of faculty who participate in the program). Applications for tuition scholarship, or assistantship financial aid is a part of the admission application form and is made at the time of application. Students must have acquired their bachelor's degree to meet the qualifications for a graduate assistantship position.

2. Procedures After Admittance

4+1 Students will follow normal procedures in applying for the Bachelor's degree, and later, the Master's degree, once the appropriate course requirements have been met.

To maintain status in the program, students must do the following:
   a. Prior to the end of the junior year, meet with the graduate advisor and develop a planned program of study.
   b. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all graduate and undergraduate coursework.
   c. Obtain a grade of C or higher in Accounting courses.
   d. Progress would be evaluated at the end of each semester by the student's graduate advisor.

3. Key 4+1 Accelerated degree Program Features

   a. 4+1 students would be permitted to take graduate classes as part of their academic studies. Normally, this process would begin at the conclusion of the student's junior year.

   b. The total credit hours for the combined BS/MS degree would be 150 hours, i.e., the same as it would be if students took the two degrees separately.

   c. Undergrad course requirements would be the same as they are now, with this exception. Two graduate courses required for the MS ISTM portion can be used to satisfy the "free" electives required for the undergraduate portion.

   d. Total graduate level course requirements would be the same as for the MS in ISTM degree. These requirements include 30 credit hours of coursework at the 600 or 800 level (see attached graduate planning sheet for course specifics).

   e. Students in the 4+1 program would be permitted to take up to 6 credit hours of independent study. Additional independent study would not count toward graduation.