COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The College of Information Science and Technology (IS&T) was established on July 1, 1996 and represents the joint efforts of the University of Nebraska, the State of Nebraska, and private industry to address the growing global need for knowledgeable professionals in the area of information technology.

The College of IS&T’s overarching philosophy is exemplified by the value statement, “No student will go unassisted or unchallenged.”

Our Vision
We will be a premier college with excellence in education, research, and service in the disciplines necessary to meet the needs of our students and the communities we serve.

Our Mission
We deliver student-focused education and perform cutting-edge research, preparing professionals and developing solutions that benefit the world. (We do cool stuff.)

In order to accomplish the College of IS&T’s vision and mission, the faculty and staff strive to achieve the following three strategic goals:

1. Keep students at the center of all College of IS&T efforts;
2. Strive to achieve the highest academic excellence; and
3. Actively lead and collaborate with academic, business, and community entities on various projects related to information science and technology.

The College of IS&T is focused on reaching the next level of information technology innovation through collaboration. This collaboration is fostered by the presence of the College in the Peter Kiewit Institute and is visible in the form of research, teaching, and service/outreach initiatives in partnership with our public and private stakeholders in the community, other academic units across the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and the rest of the University of Nebraska system.

General Information
Overview of Degree Programs
The College of IS&T at UNO offers a top-notch education as a means of producing highly competent information specialists for leading technology, business, and engineering firms. Students will be prepared to enter the IT industry, apply technology in organizational environments, embrace lifelong learning, and contribute to their communities.

The College is organized into three major units that manage the degree programs: the Department of Computer Science (CS), the Department of Information Systems and Quantitative Analysis (ISQA), and the School of Interdisciplinary Informatics (Si2).

Degrees
The College of IS&T offers five undergraduate degree programs:

1. BS in Bioinformatics (BSBI)
2. BS in Computer Science (BSCS)
3. BS in Cybersecurity (BSIA)
4. BS in Information Technology Innovation (BITI)
5. BS in Management Information Systems (BIS)

Minors
The College of IS&T also offers a minor in each of its five undergraduate degree programs.

Concentrations
The College of IS&T offers optional concentrations in Information Assurance and Internet Technologies to students pursuing undergraduate degrees in Management Information Systems (MIS) or Computer Science (CS); the concentrations are designed to provide students an opportunity to add a more technical or applied dimension to their respective programs of study.

The ISQA Department offers additional optional concentrations to MIS degree-seeking students in the following areas: IT Audit and Control; i-Business Application Development and Management; and Global IT Leadership and Management.

The Computer Science Department offers two additional optional concentrations: one in Game Programming and Design, and one in Artificial Intelligence.

Certificates
The College of IS&T currently offers three undergraduate certificate options to all students enrolled in the College. Students who hold an associate’s degree from a community college in Information Technology or a related area may also enroll in one of these certificate programs:

1. Data Management Certificate
2. Systems Development Certificate
3. Information Technology Administration Certificate

Cyber Operations Track
The University of Nebraska at Omaha’s undergraduate Cybersecurity degree program is one of the few National Security Agency (NSA) certified National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Operations (CAE-CO) in the country. As a result, UNO’s College of IS&T is able to offer undergraduate students majoring in Cybersecurity the option to pursue a specialized Cyber Operations (CO) track and complete the requirements set out by the NSA’s CAE-CO program.

Fast Track
The College of Information Science & Technology (CIST) has developed a Fast Track program for highly qualified and motivated students providing the opportunity to complete a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in an accelerated time frame. With Fast Track, students may count up to 9 graduate credit hours towards the completion of their undergraduate program as well as the graduate degree program. Students will work with both undergraduate and graduate advisors to ensure graduate classes selected will count toward both programs, should a student wish to earn a graduate degree in a separate CIST area than their undergraduate degree.

Program Specifics:

• This program is available for undergraduate students pursuing any CIST undergraduate degree (computer science, management information systems, bioinformatics, cybersecurity, IT innovation) desiring to pursue an MS in either the same or a related CIST program.
• Students must have completed no less than 60 undergraduate hours.
• Students must have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0, with the exception of the computer science MS which requires a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.5.
• Students must complete the Fast Track Approval form and obtain all signatures and submit to the Office of Graduate Studies prior to first enrollment in a graduate course.
• Students will work with their undergraduate advisor to register for the graduate courses.
• A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for graduate coursework to remain in good standing.
• Students remain undergraduates until they meet all the requirements for the undergraduate degree and are eligible for all rights and privileges granted undergraduate status including financial aid.
• Near the end of the undergraduate program, formal application to the graduate program is required. All applicants will need to meet any other admission requirements established for the MS program. The application fee will be waived, the applicant must contact the Office of Graduate Studies for a fee waiver code.
  • Admission to Fast Track does NOT guarantee admission to the graduate program.
  • For all CIST degrees, if a student successfully completes their undergraduate BS degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (3.5 for computer science) and all graduate courses with a 3.0 or better, they will be recommended for admission to the graduate program.
• The admit term must be after the completion term of the undergraduate degree.

Honors Program
The College of Information Science and Technology actively supports the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s University Honors Program. For more information, please visit the Honors Program’s website here (https://www.unomaha.edu/honors-program/).

The Honors Program office is located in 208 Kayser Hall.
Phone: 402.554.2696

Accreditation Information

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Accreditation Body</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>BSCS</td>
<td>ABET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Information Systems</td>
<td>BIS</td>
<td>ABET</td>
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The College of IS&T’s degree programs in Computer Science and Management Information Systems have been accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc., the recognized accrediting body of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology. ABET accreditation demonstrates a program’s commitment to providing its students with a quality education.

More information about the College’s accreditation and educational objectives for specific ABET accredited programs in Computer Science and Management Information Systems can be found here (https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-information-science-and-technology/academic/abet-accreditation.php).

All IS&T programs are also accredited as part of UNO’s accreditation by the North Central Association/Higher Learning Commission.

Choice of Catalog Policy
A student registering in the College of IS&T for the first time will work with an advisor to develop a matriculation form based on the current online catalog. The matriculation form is used to establish a plan of study for a student’s most current academic plan, provided the student has continuous enrollment.

It is the responsibility of each student admitted to the College of Information Science & Technology to become familiar with the procedures and regulations in the undergraduate catalog for their degree program. The College of Information Science & Technology reserves the right, after due notice during the course of a student’s work toward a degree, to institute and make effective any new ruling which may be necessary for the general good of the College and to substitute courses for those no longer offered.

College Contact Information
Dean’s Office: 402.554.2380
Computer Science: 402.554.2423
Information Systems and Quantitative Analysis: 402.554.4912
School of Interdisciplinary Informatics: 402.554.4902
Undergraduate Advising: 402.554.3819
Graduate Advising: 402.554.3819

Program Website (http://www.ist.unomaha.edu)

Admission Requirements for the College of IS&T
Application deadlines for the College of Information Science & Technology are as follows:

Fall Semester - First day of fall semester classes
Spring Semester - First day of spring semester classes
Summer Sessions - July 1

Students may apply for entrance to the College of IS&T during initial registration by indicating their preference in the appropriate place on the University Application for Admission form. A minimum ACT score of 24 or an SAT score of 1110 (Verbal/Math) or a ranking in the top third of a graduating high school class is required for all incoming freshmen to be admitted to the College.

Transfer admission from other colleges or universities: Students may transfer into the College of Information Science & Technology from other institutions by completing the application process described above and meeting the minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 (on a 4.00 scale) with a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Academic Requirements for Degrees in the College of IS&T

Number of Hours to Graduate
A minimum of 120 credit hours is required for a Bachelor of Science degree in the College of IS&T. A maximum enrollment of 17 credit hours is allowed per semester. For the summer term, a maximum enrollment of 12 credit hours is allowed.

Minimum GPA
A GPA of 2.5 or higher is required to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of IS&T.

College of IS&T Bachelor of Science Requirements
Please see individual College of IS&T degree subsections for specific Bachelor of Science requirements.

Transfer Credit Policy
A maximum of 64 credit hours are accepted from an accredited community college. A minimum grade of C- is required to transfer credits toward College of IS&T degree programs with the exception of business courses and the equivalent of UNO’s CIST 1400 and CSCI 1620, which require a grade of C or better.

Unacceptable Credits
Courses such as ENGL 1090, ENGL 1100, MATH 1210, and orientation courses in other colleges or divisions may not be counted as part of the minimum 120 credit hours for College of IS&T degree programs. The course, US 1010 Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills for the Modern Day Student, can, however, be counted as elective credit if taken within the first 30 hours of the degree program. A maximum of four credit hours of different Physical Education Activities (PEA) courses may be applied toward the general elective area.
Retroactive Credit Policy
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/)

Advanced Placement Credits
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/)

Military Credit
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/)

International Baccalaureate (IB) Credit
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/transfer-credit/)

Placement Exams and Credit by Examinations Policies/Practices
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/student-life-support-services/testing-center/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/student-life-support-services/testing-center/)

Residency Requirement
Thirty of the last 36 credit hours must be University of Nebraska at Omaha courses.

Quality of Work
Students must obtain a grade of C- or better in each class for the purpose of meeting General Education, College of Information Science & Technology (IS&T), and Departmental requirements for College of IS&T degrees with the exception of CIST 1400 and CSCI 1620, which require a minimum grade of C. A grade of C or better is also required for some courses taken in the College of Business Administration (CBA).

Good Academic Standing Policy
A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 is required by the College of Information Science & Technology.

Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) Grades
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/grades/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/grades/)

Completion of an Incomplete Grade
To receive an incomplete, students must contact their instructor prior to the end of the semester, request a grade of incomplete, and make arrangements to complete the work. The rules which govern the issuance of an incomplete are as follows:

1. The grade “I” is used by an instructor at the end of a semester or summer session to designate incomplete work in a course. It is given when a student, due to circumstances such as illness, military service, hardship, or death in the immediate family, is unable to complete the requirements of the course in the term in which the student is registered for credit. Incompletes will only be given if the student has already substantially completed the major requirements of the course.

2. Each instructor will judge each situation. The instructor will also indicate by a departmental record with a copy to the student how the incomplete is to be removed. If the instructor is at the University at the time of removal, they will supervise the makeup work and report the permanent grade.

3. In the event the instructor is not available at the time of the student’s application for removal of an incomplete, the department chairperson will supervise the removal of the incomplete and turn in the permanent grade for the student.

4. A student shall have no longer than the end of the next regular semester following receipt of the “I” to remove the incomplete. After that time, the “I” will automatically become a “W,” or such other grade specified by the instructor depending on the amount and quality of the coursework previously completed. Exceptions to this rule will be permitted if initiated by the student and approved by the instructor, department chairperson, and dean. Exceptions to this rule will be made only in response to circumstances over which the student has no control, and these must be detailed.

5. In registering for courses, students receiving one or more “I” grades from the previous semester should take into account the time needed to complete the required work and plan their schedules accordingly.

Repealtable Grades/Courses
A repeated course may count only once for graduation. Exceptions are internships, independent studies, physical education activity courses, and special topic courses.

For students repeating any Computer Science course (CSCI 1xxx-4xxx):

1. A formal warning shall be conveyed to the student upon receiving a grade below C- in CSCI courses (or a grade below C in the case of CSCI 1620) for a second time.
2. The student shall not be allowed to enroll in the course after receiving a grade below C for the third time.

Attendance Policy for Computer Science Courses
1. A formal warning shall be conveyed to the student upon the second instance (first instance for summer sessions) of unexcused absence from a class.
2. The student shall be withdrawn from the class after the third instance (second instance for summer sessions) of unexcused absence from the class.

Grade Appeal Policy and Process
Students who wish to appeal a grade which they feel was erroneously given shall first discuss the matter with the course instructor. If a satisfactory agreement cannot be reached, the student may submit a written appeal to the department chairperson within 30 days of receipt of the grade report from the Registrar’s Office. If a satisfactory agreement still cannot be reached, the Academic Evaluation Committee of the College of Information Science & Technology will hold a hearing to make a final determination based on the facts presented. The most current College of IS&T undergraduate grade appeal policy can be found here (https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-information-science-and-technology/student-resources/grade-appeal-policy.php):

Academic Amnesty
A student who did not perform well during one or two consecutive semesters (not necessarily the first and second ones) at the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO), the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), or the University of Nebraska Kearney (UNK) may petition the College of IS&T for academic amnesty to have either one or both semesters’ grades removed from their cumulative grade point average (GPA). To petition for academic amnesty, a student must have completed 24 semester hours (12 semester hours if the student is part-time) of coursework at UNO, UNL, or UNK with a GPA of 2.5 or better subsequent to the semester or semesters in question.

In addition, a minimum of four years is required between the semester(s) being considered for amnesty and the petition for academic amnesty. If the Academic Amnesty Committee agrees, those courses that were completed with a C- or better (or a C grade or better in the case of some College of Business Administration courses or CIST 1400 and CSCI 1620 beginning in the Fall 2019 semester) during the academic amnesty semester or semesters may still count toward...
graduation. Students who are granted academic amnesty may not graduate with academic honors.

**Academic Probation and Suspension**

**Probation**
Probation constitutes a period of formal warning that a student is doing unsatisfactory work. A student whose cumulative grade point average is below 2.0 after having attempted six or more semester hours of study will be placed on probation. Probationary status will remain in effect as long as the student’s cumulative grade point average (GPA) remains below 2.0. No student will be allowed to enroll for any course on a Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit basis while on probation.

The student is encouraged to use every opportunity while on probation to seek counsel and guidance from various university agencies which have been established to offer assistance and academic support. For information on such services, the student should consult with their academic advisor or counselor.

**Suspension**
Students who are on probation will be suspended at the end of the spring semester if their semester grade point average is lower than 2.0 and their cumulative grade point average (GPA) falls below the following standards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Cumulative GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-12</td>
<td>No Suspension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-45</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 or more</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic suspension under these conditions will be automatic and will be for a minimum period of one year.

Students placed on suspension will be notified by the College of Information Science & Technology and given instructions on how to appeal, should they choose to do so, as well as any applicable deadlines associated with an appeal.

Appeals properly filed shall delay implementation of the suspension until the appropriate appeal committee has ruled on the appeal. However, if the appeal is denied, the student shall be disenrolled and tuition shall be refunded.

Students will only be suspended at the end of the spring term. This rule applies to all UNO colleges, including the Division of Continuing Studies and all University of Nebraska-Lincoln Omaha-based programs in the Colleges of Architecture, Agriculture, Education and Human Resources, and Engineering.

**Reinstatement Policy Following Academic Suspension**
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/grades/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/grades/)

**Academic Advising**
The College of IS&T’s undergraduate academic advisors recognize that students have individual academic, career, and personal needs that may require special assistance. Below are some guidelines on how academic advisors help ensure success. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with their advisor regularly.

**What do IS&T academic advisors do?**
IS&T academic advisors explain the rules and requirements of College of IS&T programs and help students understand how they apply to individual situations. The advisors prepare each student record so that students meet all the requirements for the degree in the final audit process. In addition, advisors provide advice about which degree-program specific courses and scheduling will be most helpful. They can also help with difficult situations such as concerns about grades, course instruction, time management, scheduling conflicts, or other academic issues.

**When should I see an academic advisor?**
During freshman and sophomore year, students in the College of IS&T are required to meet with an advisor every semester. Juniors and seniors in good academic standing are strongly encouraged, though not required, to continue to meet with an advisor at least once per semester to plan their classes, to make sure all records are up-to-date, and to catch any problems early. All seniors are required to schedule a meeting for a senior check when they reach 91 earned hours. Students majoring in IT Innovation are required to meet with an academic advisor every semester.

Any student whose GPA falls below 2.5 will be required to meet with an academic advisor regardless of class standing.

**Advising Holds**
Advising holds are automatically placed each semester for freshmen, sophomores, all IT Innovation students, and for any student whose GPA is below a 2.5.

**Student Holds**
https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/enrollment/enrollment/ (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/enrollment/enrollment/)

**Senior Check**
When students reach 91 hours of completed coursework, they must request a senior check to be done by an academic advisor. Assuming satisfactory completion of all approved courses and degree requirements, this process will assure the student’s graduation date. Should this procedure not be followed, responsibility for meeting graduation requirements falls to the student and may prevent graduation on the anticipated date.

**Application for Degree**
Each student who expects to receive a diploma must file an Application for Degree whether or not that student plans to attend the commencement ceremony. The Application for Degree is available online by logging in to MavLINK. Announcements about deadlines are also posted in MavLINK.

It is the responsibility of the student to inform the Registrar’s Office of his or her graduation plans and to provide a diploma mailing address. Failure to meet these stipulations may necessitate postponement of graduation until the following semester.