Program Overview

Management Information Systems aims to develop leaders who leverage information technology for strategic business value. A well rounded MIS major has a duality of business acumen and technical skills.

Potential Careers

MIS majors pursue a wide range of careers due to their extent of transferable skills. These skills can fall on a range of technical to functional subject matters. For example, technical skills can relate to data analytics, machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms, programming, networking, databases, cybersecurity, data privacy, IT risk assessments, IT audits, etc. Functional skills can relate to client-facing roles, business development, operations, consulting, etc.

MIS skill sets can be found in any industry since every business is powered with IT and most firms undergo digital transformations to use digital technologies strategically for differentiating their performance. MIS skills are needed in many industries; and the tech industry itself is divided into many subject matters -- fintech, adtech, healthcare, etc. Then there's a variance of size from the tech giants -- Microsoft, Google, Facebook --- to the exciting small startups in Silicon Valley.

Here are some industry examples (not a comprehensive list):
- Corporate IT
- Consulting
  - Strategy/Management/Etc (functional)
  - Tech Consulting (technical)
- Tech Sales
- Social Media
- Information Software
- Cloud Application and Integration
- Data Science
- Cybersecurity, data privacy
- IT Audit

Example of Positions:
- Technology/Strategy/Management Consultant
- Database Administrator
- Product Manager
- Business Analyst
- Technical Account Manager

- Data Analyst/Scientist
- Solutions Engineer
- [More here](#)

Overview of Classes*
Required:
- MIS 301 - Introduction to Information Technology Management
- MIS 304 - Introduction to Problem Solving and Programming
- MIS 325 - Database Management
- MIS 333K - Web Application Development
- MIS 374 - Business System Development (Prereq: MIS 333K)
- MIS 375 - Strategic Information Technology Management

Electives (2 required)*:
*Electives vary semester to semester; some are exclusive to a certain semester
- MIS 373 Mobile Apps & Web Development
- MIS 373 Enterprise Computing
- MIS 373 IT Audit & Security
- MIS 373 IT Security, eDiscovery, & Digital Forums
- MIS 373 Advanced Analytics Programming
- MIS 373 Predictive Analytics & Data Mining
- MIS 373 User Generated Content Analytics
- MIS 373 Social Media Analytics
- MIS 373 Healthcare Analytics
- MIS 373 Information Technology for Supply Chain

*Consult the Management Information Systems degree plan for your course catalog at
https://my.mccombs.utexas.edu/BBA/Advising/Degree-Planning/Degree-Plans

Related Student Organizations

McCombs Student Organizations:
- MISA:
  - The Management Information Systems Association is a professional, academic, philanthropic and social organization. MISA unites a diverse community of individuals who have a passion for combining technology with business and often pursue careers in Information Technology. Each semester MISA holds various activities that are designed to expose students to professional opportunities, expand their technological skills, and meet other like-minded individuals.
  - General Meetings are Tuesdays 6-7pm at CBA 3.428 (FREE food always)
  - http://txmisa.org/
- Convergent:

- 1st and only organization to be formally backed by both UT's Department of Computer Science and the McCombs School of Business. Convergent aims to create a platform where interdisciplinary collaboration thrives.
    - http://www.txconvergent.org/

Relevant Computer Science Organizations
- Code Orange:
    - Code Orange is an organization dedicated to enabling UT students to make a positive, lasting impact in the lives of children in underserved communities here in Austin through technical education, mentorship, and outreach.
    - http://codeorange.io/
- Machine Learning & Data Science (MLDS):
    - If you're interested in machine learning and data science, this is a great organization to be a part of. Every semester they start with a very bare-bones overview and by the end, you will be participating in machine learning competitions using the skills that you've gained from the meetings. If you enjoyed AP Stats, or STA 309/371G, and you enjoy MIS 304, this would be a great org and possibly lead to a great career track. Meetings are held in the EER and mainly hosted by EE and CS Students.

Related Study Abroad Trips

There are no specific study abroad trips for MIS majors, but many UT and McCombs study abroad trips allow students to take classes that will count toward MIS major requirements, or the business core curriculum requirements

Upperclassman Contact Information
- Sudeep Swarnapuri (19'-20' MISA President, DUC MIS Student Rep) SudeepSwarnapuri@utexas.edu
(832) 316-0183

Testimonial

"I chose MIS because I was looking for a technical major that would give me strong skills for the workplace. It was easier for me to learn technical skills in a structured, classroom setting whereas other subjects I could learn on the job. Overall, I'm so glad I chose MIS and met the great professors and team members in the program.

Truthfully, I wasn't expecting to enjoy coding so much but I found the process of problem solving extremely compelling. It was also really empowering to learn about the tech and being able to literally create my own solutions. The thing about technology is that it's constantly advancing and there's always something interesting on the horizon. I love being part of that constant

progress and working with smart people to build a better world. I actually had a fantastic 333K and 374 group experience because I worked with awesome women that made it all worth it.

Recruiting-wise, I was pleasantly surprised that so many companies wanted MIS majors. Turns out, you can have great tech but if you don't know how to sell it, it won't bring value to anyone. There was a huge range of positions and industries I could've pursued, even some post-grad rotational programs and boot camps that would prepare me more. I would say new MIS majors don't need to know exactly what type of job they want but if they think tech is part of their future, MIS is a great choice.

Any Major Specific Information or Requirements (if applicable)

A Management Information Systems major is pursued through the McCombs School of Business. It's common to find MIS majors who also pursue an Elements of Computing computer science certificate to build stronger technical skills. Some MIS majors take on graduate degrees, such as UT's MS Information Technology and Management degree (undergraduate MIS not required to pursue this program)."

- Katy Pan, Class of 2019

"When I came to McCombs, it wasn't to be a MIS major. Originally, I aspired for a career in Investment Banking or S&T as a finance major. After spending my freshman year learning what it was like to be in one of those roles and evaluating all the other options a Finance major had, I realized it wasn't for me. I was always interested in math, statistics and programming, I decided to target a career in data science and declared my major as MIS. At first I thought of MIS as just being an 'easy version of CS' and was always worried on how I could compete with CS majors for industry jobs, but what the MIS department does far better than CS is provide the practical applications and business acumen necessary to communicate and succeed in a technology environment. In fact, I believe that a MIS degree opens a wider variety of doors for me than a traditional CS role would.

I was extremely surprised by the structure of the degree and how well it trains you for industry. Although for data science specifically I had to take courses outside of the MIS department to supplement my knowledge, a lot of what I learned can be applied to almost any technology job out there. Even better, MIS provides a lot of great recruiting opportunities. With technology being a common theme in almost every industry, there is rarely a company out there that isn't looking for MIS majors; I like to think of MIS as a blank check to cash in at any company. I have done an internship as a Cybersecurity Analyst and an internship as a Real Estate Private Equity Analyst (just to try out a role in Finance) which shows how an MIS degree can still allow you to recruit for a wide variety of roles. From the amazing professors to the variety of recruiting opportunities, I believe MIS is one of the most valuable majors McCombs has to offer.

I suggest that any student that is interested in technology or the way companies use technology to derive value to really consider a degree in MIS. If you love problem solving, working through

logic, and building things, MIS could be for you. If you don't enjoy coding, you can choose to supplement your degree with more practical electives and maybe a minor in an area you're interested in (I have a minor in Finance). If you really enjoy the coding aspect and want to pursue a more technical role, you can work towards the Elements of Computing Certificate. No matter what your interests are, you can use your MIS degree and minors/certs to set yourself on the right path."

- Sudeep Swarnapuri, Class of 2020
  Minor: Finance
  Certificates: Elements of Computing, Scientific Computation & Data Sciences

FAQ

- What resources do MIS majors have?
  - The MIS listserv is highly recommended! Professors are active in sending elective information, job positions, and tech opportunities through this forum

- Do I have to love coding to be an MIS major?
  - MIS majors generally share an interest in technology. While there are required classes that require heavy coding (e.g MIS 333K), they can serve as a foundation for your future technical career **or** just good experience for you to help collaborate in a functional role with more technical people.

- What is the CS certificate/Does anyone double major in CS MIS?
  - The CS Elements of Computing certificate is a good supplement to MIS if you were a business student who wants a more technical edge. There are a number of classes in the MIS and CS curriculum that count towards the certificate.
  - A CS/MIS double major is not very common, likely because the technical aspects in MIS are elementary for the CS curriculum. Note that the key in MIS is the duality of business and technical whereas CS digs deep into technical.

- Do companies hire CS and MIS majors for the same positions?
  - There's often an overlap for some positions however CS and MIS majors have different skill sets that companies need. For example, a very technically advanced MIS major that knows CS curriculum (data structures, for example, is a CS fundamental that's not taught in MIS) may get a software engineering job that could also go to a CS major. Vice versa for a sales position that requires a CS major with relationship building skills.