



INFORMATICS | COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

B.A. IN INFORMATICS

Informatics is the intersection of technology (computer science) and another field of study, such as biology or health. In any discipline, understanding technology can increase the efficiency of research in that subject.

The Bachelor of Science in Informatics degree program is designed to provide students with a foundation in computer skills supported by a strong theoretical base. This foundation enables graduates to enter the job market as information systems specialists. The fastest growing areas of study are bioinformatics and health informatics.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A Bachelor of Science in Informatics requires 120 credit hours with an overall grade point average of 2.0 and an overall grade point average of 2.0 in Informatics. The informatics degree requires a total of 40 credit hours in Informatics plus a cognate area.

COURSEWORK

Required courses:

- Informatics Core (34 credits)
- Informatics Electives (6 credits)
- Cognate Area (15-18 credits)

Sample courses include Social Informatics,

Math Informatics, two semesters of Information Infrastructure, Information Representation, and Human Computer Interaction. Students must complete a capstone requirement of a Senior Thesis, Senior Project or Internship.

The cognate area is a subject or discipline in which students wish to specialize and develop an understanding of how technology can be used in this area. Students should consult the particular department for their cognate area to see specific courses.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The informatics program is housed in the Computer Information Systems (CIS) Department.

The CIS faculty offers a wide range of experience and expertise. All associate faculty members are currently employed or self-employed in the field of Information Technology (IT). In addition, full-time faculty members have past work experience in the IT field.

Areas of expertise for the CIS faculty include computer graphics, computer networking systems, office systems, computer security, computer programming, systems development, data mining, and database modeling and design.

CIS offers both day and evening classes. In addition, CIS offers a wide variety of classes online, ranging from introductory courses to advanced courses such as Advanced Computer Applications, Web Design, and Web Programming. CIS also offers classes that meet one night a week for three hours, to help students obtain the widest variety of scheduling options.

Many classes have access to additional learning tools such as Lynda.com and skill- assessment management software. Individual courses may make use of course- specific learning materials.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN INFORMATICS?

Informatics graduates find employment as systems and database analysts, network administrators, and Web developers. Systems and database analysts plan and develop methods for computerizing business systems. Knowledge of Web development helps businesses meet the challenges of e-commerce in a global market.

HANDS-ON LEARNING

Informatics students work with state-of-the-art software packages and all students have access to IU Northwest's network of personal computer workstations and online resources. Informatics students have access to a networking lab where they learn not only hardware requirements but also the latest in network systems administration.

As part of their degree experience, students are encouraged to participate in the Internship Program. The Internship Program provides real world, on-the-job experience and opportunities to practice what has been learned in class. After graduation, many interns remain with the companies that sponsored their internships

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Information Technology Club is open to all interested parties. Students meet about once per month and enjoy group outings once per semester.

RELATED DEGREE OPTIONS

- Minor in Informatics

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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