WHAT IS INFORMATION SYSTEMS (IS)?

- The art of applying information technology to enhance productivity, efficiency and effectiveness of business processes
- Companies need the skills offered by information systems majors to help them design, implement and manage the systems that support their operations, management and decision making functions
- Every area of business depends on technology; information systems can also be used to help increase revenue and provide a competitive edge
- The objective of these systems is to enhance productivity by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of business processes
- Computers and other information technologies are the technical foundations or the tools of information systems

PREPARATION

- Both technical skills and knowledge of business process and practice are needed by an information systems professional to effectively work in today's business environment
- The field of information systems is unique in that it blends organizational and managerial concerns with the study of information technologies
- These skills are necessary to advance into leadership positions, particularly within the information systems functional area of the firm

CAREERS

The career paths in information systems are as varied as the industries and organizations that hire IS graduates but there are several major categories for entry level positions.

General: human resource assistant, specialist

Technical: Create or assist in the creation of technology products (software). These jobs include programming, database engineering, operations (computer hardware) etc.

Analysis: Interpret the technology. This is mainly what the business users would like the technology to do. These jobs include systems analyst and business analyst.

Consulting: Apply the analytical and problem solving features of IS with the knowledge of systems and programming; functions as part of a team of consultants

Database and information systems management: Function within a company, agency or organization to manage the various databases and systems where information is collected, stored, processed, retrieved and used; working with the people who access the information

Systems analysis, design and management: Help to design the systems that manage the information

HIRING COMPANIES (a sampling of companies who have recruited IS majors)

Accenture
Battelle
Deloitte
EY
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
KPMG
Marathon Petroleum LLC
Nationwide
NIelsen
Oracle
Proctor & Gamble
PwC

SALARY (average salaries for 2018-2019)

Full-time $64,665
Intern $19/Average Hourly Salary
ACTION STEPS FOR STUDENTS CURRENTLY EXPLORING SPECIALIZATIONS WITHIN FISHER

Review the Career Exploration by Academic Specialization PowerPoints.
Each presentation covers career areas, sample job titles, career path, companies that hire this major, salary information, professional organizations and more.
fisher.osu.edu/offices/career-management/undergraduate-students/explore-careers

Check out the “From Orientation To Graduation” blog.
The blog features student interns who post notes about their initial steps into the business world, the challenges they face as interns, and how they are applying their classroom theories and extracurricular activities to practice. “From Orientation To Graduation” is a great place to read about the experiences and contributions being made by a select group of undergraduate students. The blog also offers career related tips and advice throughout the year.
fisher.osu.edu/blogs/ug-career-mgmt

Enroll in Business Administration 2600 (offered spring semester).
This is a speaker series course with a focus on business enrichment for Fisher undergraduate students. While open to all business majors, this class is structured to benefit freshmen and sophomores who are exploring the many fields of business study. During the course a variety of business and community leaders share their personal and professional life stories with a focus on their own challenges and successes.

Talk to people!
Informational interviewing is a method of career exploration and a way of discovering jobs not publicly advertised. It is not the same as a job interview. Informational interviewing allows you to talk with people already in the industry you have targeted. By obtaining informational interviews, you have gained access to the “inside information” regarding career paths, alternate careers that will use your skills, and people to contact who may be looking for an employee like you.

Peer Career Coaches in the Office of Career Management and Peers Advisors in the Undergraduate Programs and Advising Office are students who are happy to talk with you and answer questions about their experience in selecting a specialization.

Get Involved!
Student organizations are a great way to meet new people (alumni, employers, and peers) and to learn about specializations. There are over 30 student organizations in Fisher.
fisherosu.campuslabs/engage/

Review job descriptions in Handshake or on company websites.
Job descriptions help you learn what skills and qualifications employers are seeking in candidates and the type of information you will be learning in a specialization.

Utilize the Occupational Outlook Handbook.
For hundreds of different types of jobs the Occupational Outlook Handbook tells you: the training and education needed, earnings, expected job prospects, what workers do on the job, and working conditions. In addition, the handbook gives you job search tips, links to information about the job market in each state, and more.
bls.gov/ocoandsalesforcemanagement

Learn more about specializations and minors
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