

Information Technology M.S.I.T. (Thesis)

Degree Requirements: 30 Credit Hours (Thesis)

Admission Requirements

Regular Admission

- Admissions to the MSIT program are competitive. Meeting the admission requirements does not guarantee admission to the program.
- Completed requirements for the Bachelor's degree at a college or university accredited by the proper regional accrediting association.
- An undergraduate degree or the equivalent in Information Technology, Computer Science/Engineering, or Information Systems, or a closely related field of study.
- A 3.00 (4.0 scale) cumulative grade point average (GPA) or higher on courses in undergraduate work, or equivalent.
- International students must meet College of Graduate Studies English Proficiency requirements. 6. In addition to the above requirements, admission to the Master of Science in Information Technology also requires:

(a) two years of work experience in the IT field if the undergraduate degree is not in information technology, information systems, computer science/engineering or a closely related field; and

(b) a competitive score on the GRE or GMAT exam. The GRE or GMAT exam may be waived if the applicant has three or more years of work experience in IT or a closely related field.

Provisional

A student may be granted provisional admission based upon the recommendation of the Master of Science in Information Technology Graduate Program Coordinator or Department Chair.

Non-Degree

Non-degree students are accepted on an individual basis as space is available.

Program of Study ¹

		Credit Hours
Core Requirements		12
IT 7130	IT Governance	
IT 7135	Seminar in IT	
IT 7134	IT Project Management	
IT 7131	Data Science Methods	
Electives Courses		12
Choose 12 credits (a maximum of 6 credit hours from IT 5xxxG courses)		
IT 5090G	Selected Topics in Information Technology	
IT 5135G	Data Analytics	
IT 5233G	Web and Mobile Security Fundamentals	
IT 5236G	Distributed and Mobile Systems	
IT 5433G	Information Storage and Management	
IT 5434G	Advanced Network Security	

IT 7090	Selected Topics in Information Technology (May be repeated for credit under different topics)	
IT 7133	Digital Security and Forensics Investigation	
IT 7790	MSIT Internship	
IT 7895	Special Problems in IT	
Or other elective courses approved by MSIT Program Coordinator		
Thesis		6
IT 7999	Thesis	
Total Credit Hours		30

¹ A minimum of 50% of courses for the Master of Science in Information Technology degree must be taken at or above the 6000 level.

Thesis

Each candidate for the Master of Science in Information Technology Thesis Option degree must complete a thesis on a subject approved by the graduate thesis committee. The major professor supervises the research, directs the writing of the thesis, and approves the thesis in its final form. Prior to the final approval, the thesis is read by the thesis committee. One member, termed the second reader, has responsibility for an intensive and rigorous criticism of the thesis and a third member of the thesis committee has the responsibility of an "editorial reader." Both second and third readers must report all comments to the major professor. The thesis must be defended in an oral examination before the graduate committee prior to final approval and sign-off. The style and format for the completed thesis shall follow that prescribed by the Program Director for the Master of Science in Information Technology degree. Procedural steps in the preparation of the thesis are as follows:

- The prospectus for the thesis shall be submitted to the major professor and thesis committee for approval.
- The student must prepare the thesis for electronic submission following the latest version of the Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD): Student Guide to Preparation and Processing manual.
- The thesis must be electronically submitted to the ETD site for format check by the final thesis submission deadline as stated in the University Calendar.
- The final corrected thesis must be electronically submitted to the ETD site by the ETD format check submission deadline as stated in the University Calendar. The final document must be electronically approved by the Thesis Committee.

Accelerated Bachelors to Masters (ABM) Degree Requirements: 30 Credit Hours

In accordance with SACSCOC requirements, 120 unique credit hours are required in a Bachelors degree program, and at least 30 unique credit hours are required for a Masters degree program. The **MSIT-ABM** program combines **124** hours from the **BSIT program** and **30** hours from the **MSIT program**, exceeding the required 150 unique hours between undergraduate and graduate degree programs by **4** hours. The *Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies Handbook for Program Directors and Graduate Advisors* permits a maximum of 9 shared credit hours between the undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Therefore, **BSIT-ABM** students may share a maximum of **4** credit hours of graduate level courses (5000G) in satisfying the requirements of both degree programs.

Admission Requirements

Regular Admission

For regular admission to the Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's of Science in Information Technology (ABM-MSIT) degree program, the applicant must have:

1. Enrollment as a current Georgia Southern undergraduate student majoring in Information Technology.
2. Completed at least 45 credit hours completed in the undergraduate program; including the courses MATH 1111, COMM 1110, STAT 1401, IT 1130, and IT 2333, each with a grade of C or better.
3. A 3.0 (4.0 scale) cumulative GPA or higher in undergraduate coursework.

ABM programs do not allow provisional admission. ABM programs are designed for students who have demonstrated a high level of undergraduate academic performance that validates their ability to be successful graduate students. Students who do not meet the minimum requirements for regular admission may be granted admission to the program upon approval of an admissions committee consisting of at least the Department Chair and the Graduate Program director.

ABM Degree Requirements: 30 Credit Hours (Thesis & Non-Thesis)

1. A student in the ABM program will be allowed to use up to 4 credits of upper division IT courses offered within the Information Technology program in meeting the requirements of both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree.
2. Maintain a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 (grade of "B" or better) in their graduate degree course work (including the 4 credits of graduate course work shared with the undergraduate degree).
3. Meet all requirements for both the BSIT and MSIT degrees.
4. An undergraduate student enrolled in graduate classes is limited to 6 credit hours of graduate coursework per semester.
5. A minimum of 50% of courses for the Master of Science in Information Technology degree must be taken at or above the 6000 level.

General Requirements

	Credit Hours
Core Requirements	12
IT 7130	IT Governance
IT 7135	Seminar in IT
IT 7134	IT Project Management
IT 7131	Data Science Methods
Electives Courses	12
Choose 12 credits (a maximum of 6 credit hours from IT 5xxxG courses)	
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Thesis	6
IT 7999	Thesis
Total Credit Hours	
	30

Advisement

Graduate students are advised by their program. Graduate students should reach out to their graduate program director for information regarding the structures in place to facilitate advisement. For more information visit the Graduate Academic Advisement (<http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/graduate/graduate-studies/general-graduate-policies-procedures/advisement/>) catalog page.

Graduate students can also contact the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies for more information about their program director.
Phone: 912-478-COGS (2647)
Email: gradschool@georgiasouthern.edu