

Top Ten Reasons to major in Information Systems

1. Computing is part of everything we do!

Computing and information technology are part of just about everything that touches our lives from the cars we drive, to movies we watch, to the ways businesses and governments deal with us. Understanding different dimensions of computing is part of the necessary skill set for an educated person in the 21st century. Whether you want to be a scientist, develop the latest killer application, or just know what it really means when someone says “the computer made a mistake”, studying computing provides you with valuable knowledge.

2. Expertise in Information Systems will enable you to solve complex, challenging problems.

Information Systems is a discipline that offers rewarding and challenging possibilities for a wide range of people regardless of their range of interests. Information Systems expertise requires and develops capabilities in solving deep, multidimensional problems requiring imagination and sensitivity to a variety of concerns. Information Systems means *people working with people to solve business problems*.

3. Computing will enable you to make a positive difference in the world.

Computing drives innovation in the sciences (human genome project, AIDS vaccine research, environmental monitoring and protection just to mention a few), and also in engineering, business, entertainment and education. If you want to make a positive difference in the world, study computing. An Information Systems major will help you meet this goal.

4. Information Systems offers many types of lucrative careers (\$\$\$).

Information systems jobs are among the highest paid and have the highest job satisfaction. Computing is very often associated with innovation, and developments in computing tend to drive it. This, in turn, is the key to national competitiveness. The possibilities for future developments are expected to be even greater than they have been in the past.

5. Information Systems and computer-related jobs are here to stay...

There actually are more IS positions than qualified people to fill them in the United States. U.S. information technology employment was 17% higher in 2004 than in 1999. The Bureau of Labor Statistics says computing has the greatest potential for new jobs through 2014. Yes, some IT jobs have gone overseas. If you consider the expected growth in computing, it's easy to see that companies simply need more talent. Don't miss out on pursuing the large number of open positions available right now, here in the United States.

6. Expertise in computing and Information Systems will help you even if your primary career choice is something else.

An Information Systems major provides you with a foundation of knowledge, business problem solving and logical thinking that will serve as a competitive advantage to you in your career, in whatever field you choose.

7. Computing offers great opportunities for true creativity and innovativeness.

Creating high-quality computing solutions is a highly creative activity, and computing supports creative work in many fields including business. The best solutions in computing exhibit high levels of elegance and beauty.

8. Information Systems has room for both collaborative work and individual effort.

Information Systems is often about being part of a business team that requires people with many different kinds of skills to work together. Yet, there is also plenty of opportunity for individual flair, imagination, and contribution.

9. Computer knowledge is an essential part of well-rounded academic preparation.

An increasing number of universities and employers see successful completion of an information systems course as a sign of academic well-roundedness.

10. Future opportunities in information systems are without boundaries.

Information Systems is one of those fields where it is almost impossible to predict what will happen next. We cannot even begin to imagine all the ways that you can make a contribution or how it can make your career exciting and real.

Interested in IT? Come see us!

Department of Information Systems, Business Building-Room 204, Sam M. Walton College of Business, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville 72704
Vice Chair: Dr. Paul Cronan pcronan@walton.uark.edu (479.575.6130)
Chair: Dr. Moez Limayem mlimayem@walton.uark.edu (479-575-4500)