Overview
The objective of the Ph.D. in business administration with an emphasis in information systems is to prepare students to conduct quality research in information systems as a faculty member at a research-oriented university school of business. The program is designed to produce a graduate with an understanding of the necessary subject matter required to contribute educational and research expertise to the field of information systems. In addition to preparing students to be world-class researchers, the program seeks to prepare students to teach effectively in an information systems curriculum.

Requirements
Requirements for the Ph.D. in business administration with emphasis in information systems include core courses and elective courses in information systems, research tools, and supporting fields. These 43 credit hours of courses are taken prior to advancing to candidacy and are broken down as follows: research tools (9 hours); ISYS core courses (21 hours); and supporting field courses (13 hours). Also, there is a requirement that students satisfactorily complete a one-hour Graduate Colloquium during the fall and spring semesters of each year when students are in residence on campus in pursuit of the degree. Following completion of the coursework, students must pass a comprehensive examination. The program also requires completion of 1st and 2nd year summer research projects, defense of a dissertation proposal, and successful defense of the dissertation (18 credit hours). Students are also prepared for a career in research through research assistantships, collaborative research projects with faculty members, colloquia, and classroom teaching and support.

Research: Our Key Strength
Doctoral students in the information systems program are actively involved in collaborative research projects with faculty members and also conduct independent research. Students have worked on field research projects that have led to publications in premier journals, such as MIS Quarterly and Information Systems Research, and premier conferences, such as the International Conference on Information Systems. Recently, the information systems department ranked in the top-5 in terms of publications in MIS Quarterly and Information Systems Research. One of the department’s key focal areas is behavioral research that is facilitated by excellent access to organizations and behavioral research lab facilities. The department has an active visiting scholar seminar series. As home to the Information Technology Research Institute (ITRI), Ph.D. students have access to many organizations, such as Wal-mart, Tyson, IBM and Microsoft, that serve as sites for research studies. Recent placements of our graduates include Indiana University, Bloomington and Coastal Carolina University. In addition to connections to leading businesses, students have access to world-class enterprise systems infrastructure, including SAP R/3 and related SAP products, several data mining tools, and process analysis tools. The Information Systems Graduate Student Association (ISGSA) is led by Ph.D. students in the information systems program and has hosted conferences and events of general interest, such as the Women in Academia, and specialized workshops, such as advanced SEM.

For more information about the Walton College Ph.D. in business administration with an emphasis in information systems, go to: http://gsb.uark.edu/