Information Assurance & Cyber Defense

This program provides a basic foundation of knowledge in the computing area and the ability to apply computer theory to business applications. Graduates find employment in organizations ranging from small firms to large corporations as computing technicians, providers of help desk services and software trainers.

The Information Systems associate degree is a great way to enter the work force with a degree under your belt. It will also benefit you by applying towards a four-year business degree should you choose to go that path later in life.

Job opportunities in the technology areas are diverse and growing in number. Graduates of NMU's program find employment in organizations ranging from small firms to large corporations. People-oriented career paths lead to positions as computer consultants, analysts, trainers, help desk managers, and high tech marketers. Alternate careers as software programmers, database managers, Internet specialists, and network administrators tie technical skills to the support and use of computer systems.

Skills and Competencies

As in most other fields, strong interpersonal communication and organizational skills are a must for a professional. Other valuable skills and competencies specific to the professions are: a commanding knowledge of relevant application software, technical reporting ability, the ability to work independently or with project teams. and systems design capabilities.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education and graduation requirements.

Core Courses

CIS100   Computer Concepts (2 cr.)
IS116   Cybersecurity Fundamentals (4 cr.)
CIS226   Intro. To Networks and Security (4 cr.)
CIS250   Systems Analysis and Design (4 cr.)
IS236   Cybersecurity Foundations (4 cr.)
Elective
       Choose one course from the following:
CS101   Web Site Construction (4 cr.)
CS120   Computer Science I (4 cr.)
CIS155   Software Development I (4 cr.)
CIS222   Quantitative Business Problem Solving (4 cr.)

Business Electives

ACT230   Fundamentals of Financial Accounting (4 cr.)
Elective
       Chose two courses from the following:
MGT221   Legal Environment of Business (4 cr.)
MKT230   Introduction to Marketing (4 cr.)
MGT240   Organizational Behavior and Management (4 cr.)

Other Required Courses
EN111   College Composition I (4 cr.)
Communication Elective
       Choose one couse from the following:
EN211   College Composition II (4 cr.)
SP100   Public Address (4 cr.)
LDR100   Effective Communication in the Workplace (4 cr.)

General Electives   (6 cr.)
*Recommended Courses:
DATA109 Introduction to Statistics (4 cr.)
PL182   Computer, Information, and Technology Ethoics (4 cr.)
SP110   Interpersonal Communication (4 cr.)

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Information Assurance and Cyber Defense s is an Associate of Business degree requiring 60 credits to complete. Ideally, this would take two years at 32 credits a year. This would work out to 16 credits a semester.

Job Outlook

Jobs in the computing field are expected to continue to grow in the coming years, up to 7 percent. Average salaries range from $30,000 to $40,000.

Potential Careers

NMU's Information Systems Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

Database Administrator

E-Business Consultant

End User Trainer

Information Systems

Interface Designer

Network Administrator

Software Support Technician

Systems Analyst

Technical Sales Representative

Technology Consultant

Technology Support Specialist

Training Development Consultant

Web Developer

Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:
Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
103 Jacobetti Complex
906-227-2283
www.nmu.edu/acac

College of Business
301 Cohodas
906-227-2960
www.nmu.edu/business

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:
Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:
Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Internet Resource Links:
www.careers.org
www.bls.gov

For Career Information with National Organizations:
www.iacis.org -International Assoc. of Computer
Information Systems

NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
2022

What to do with a major in...

Information Assurance & Cyber Defense

Associate's Degree