MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.) MAJOR IN DATA ANALYTICS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (NON-THESIS OPTION)

Major Program

The science of analyzing data to make actionable data-driven business decisions and gain competitive advantage has received widespread attention among business and government enterprises in the last few years. Variously referred to as Business Intelligence, Data Analytics, or Data Science, this is an emerging field that uniquely combines mathematical and statistical modeling, data visualization and information systems. The primary driving force behind the significant increase in the use of data analytics has been the extensive digitization of intra- and inter-organizational processes that generate massive amounts of data. This discipline has experienced an explosive growth during the past few years.

The main objective of the M.S. major in Data Analytics and Information Systems is to ensure that graduates can use appropriate data analysis methods and cutting-edge information technologies to derive actionable business intelligence. In a survey by KPMG, 99% of surveyed executives indicated that the skills for managing and analyzing big data sets to derive actionable insights is important for developing sound business strategy. This requires employees with advanced knowledge of data management technologies to manage big data sets and apply appropriate analytical techniques to analyze these data sets. The proposed program will provide students with integrated knowledge of information technology and data analysis methods to effectively manage and analyze data to support data-driven decision-making.

The curriculum of the degree program will provide students with the technical skills required for the DSA jobs. This includes both information systems and data analytics skills such as data management, structured query language, R and Python programming, descriptive, predictive and prescriptive analytics, machine learning, statistical computing, big data analysis, and data visualization.

Application Requirements

The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College’s website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- $55 nonrefundable application fee
- $90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts from each institution where course credit was granted
- a competitive GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- official GMAT or GRE (general test only) with a competitive score
- responses to specific essay questions and a personal statement
- resume/CV detailing work experience, extracurricular and community activities, and honors and achievements
- three letters of recommendation from individuals best able to assess the student’s ability to succeed in graduate school

TOEFL or IELTS Scores

- Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver:
  - official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall and minimum individual module scores of
    - 19 listening
    - 19 reading
    - 19 speaking
    - 18 writing
  - official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and
    - minimum individual module scores of 6.0

This program does not offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with a major in Data Analytics and Information Systems non-thesis option requires 30 semester credit hours.

Course Requirements

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<th>Code</th>
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<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>CIS 5355</td>
<td>Database Management Systems</td>
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<td>CIS 5357</td>
<td>Computing for Data Analytics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>CIS 5364</td>
<td>Data Warehousing</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIS 5367</td>
<td>Machine Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>QMST 5332</td>
<td>Optimization</td>
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<td>QMST 5334</td>
<td>Statistical Methods for Business</td>
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<td>QMST 5335</td>
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<td>QMST 5336</td>
<td>Analytics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prescribed Electives</td>
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<td>Choose 6 hours from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIS 5358</td>
<td>Agile Project Management For Business Professionals</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIS 5369</td>
<td>Independent Study in Computer Information Systems</td>
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<td>CIS 5370</td>
<td>Enterprise Resource Planning and Business Intelligence</td>
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<td>CIS 5390C</td>
<td>Statistical Computing or QMST 5339</td>
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<td>CIS 5395</td>
<td>Internship in Computer Information Systems</td>
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<td>GEO 5301</td>
<td>Multivariate Quantitative Methods</td>
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<td>GEO 5418</td>
<td>Geographic Information Systems I</td>
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Comprehensive Examination Requirements
All candidates for graduate degrees must pass one or more comprehensive examinations.

Master’s level courses in Data Analytics and Information Systems: CIS, QMST

Courses Offered
Computer Information Systems (CIS) (p. ):

CIS 5199B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CIS 5299B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
CIS 5364. Data Warehousing.  
Familiarizes students with current and emerging data warehousing technologies that play a strategic role in business organizations. Topics include data warehouse development life cycle, data warehouse navigation, data quality, and performance issues. Prerequisites: CIS 5355.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course focuses on deriving actionable knowledge from data using algorithms and industry standard tools. It covers the complete process, key technologies, core machine learning algorithms, and programming used for business intelligence. Prerequisite: CIS 5357 and QMST 5336.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course covers the analysis, design, development, implementation, and maintenance of information security systems. Topics include legal, ethical, professional, personnel issues; risk management; technology; cryptography; and physical security.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5369. Independent Study in Computer Information Systems.  
This course focuses on individual in-depth research. Students, in consultation with a faculty member, choose a selected area of study in CIS and work independently on a specialized project. Course may be repeated with approval of department chair. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5370. Enterprise Resource Planning and Business Intelligence.  
The use of information technology in integrating enterprises for operational control and business intelligence is examined via Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) applications in customer relationships management, accounting, finance, purchasing, production control, sales, marketing, and human resource management. Emphasizes managerial issues surrounding the need, selection, and implementation of ERP systems.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5371. Accounting Information Systems and Controls.  
A study of accounting information systems and controls as well as their role in the current technology-intensive business environment. Emphasis is placed on contemporary technology and applications, IT and business systems assessments, IT internal controls, control concepts and procedures, information systems auditing, and transaction cycles. Prerequisite: ACC 3313 or ACC 5361.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5372. Business Systems Assessment and Technology.  
Topics include business systems assessments, IT internal controls, control concepts and procedures, information systems auditing, and transaction cycles.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Continues with a study of accounting information systems and controls as well as their role in the current technology-intensive business environment. Emphasis is placed on contemporary technology and applications, IT and business systems assessments, IT internal controls, control concepts and procedures, information systems auditing, and transaction cycles. Prerequisite: ACC 5363.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5374. Accounting Information Systems and Controls.  
A study of accounting information systems and controls as well as their role in the current technology-intensive business environment. Emphasis is placed on contemporary technology and applications, IT and business systems assessments, IT internal controls, control concepts and procedures, information systems auditing, and transaction cycles. Prerequisite: ACC 5363.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course focuses on the technology and managerial issues related to information policies, regulations, and compliance that assure confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data and computer systems. Topics include information security policy, regulations, laws, standards, framework, compliance, and governance. Prerequisite: CIS 5368.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5376. Database Management Systems.  
This course is designed to provide the student with system development techniques for relational database management systems. Topics include conceptual, logical, and physical database design; query languages and query optimization; transaction processing; and access methods. Prerequisite: CIS 5357.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5377. Advanced Database Management.  
This course is designed to provide the student with system development techniques for relational database management systems. Topics include conceptual, logical, and physical database design; query languages and query optimization; transaction processing; and access methods. Prerequisite: CIS 5357.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course focuses on the technology and managerial issues related to information policies, regulations, and compliance that assure confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data and computer systems. Topics include information security policy, regulations, laws, standards, framework, compliance, and governance. Prerequisite: CIS 5368.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course covers programming and statistical computing concepts. Programming concepts include data manipulation, data structures, control structures, functions, basic algorithms, and matrix manipulations. Statistical computing topics include numerical linear algebra, Monte Carlo methods, and numerical optimization.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Topics  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CIS 5395. Internship in Computer Information Systems.  
This course provides students with opportunities for experiential learning by working on a computer information systems project. It enables integration of professional and academic experience through internship with an external employer. Prerequisite: Specified by employer with consent of instructor and department chair.  
3 Credit Hours. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 20 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CIS 5399A. Thesis.  
This course represents a student's initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the student has completed the thesis in Data Analytics and Information Systems. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CIS 5399B. Thesis.  
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.  
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CIS 5599B. Thesis.  
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.  
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing  
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
Quantitative Methods and Statistics (QMST): (p.)
QMST 5199B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

QMST 5299B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

QMST 5322. Optimization.
A study of management science/operations research emphasizing theory and applications of evaluative, predictive, and optimizing models as applied to the management of product and service-oriented operations.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

QMST 5334. Statistical Methods for Business.
The course provides the quantitative foundation for business analysis and decision making. Topics include: inferential statistics, regression analysis, and other analytical/modeling techniques with wide applicability in decision-making and problem solving in all functional areas of business.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

QMST 5335. Forecasting and Simulation.
This course introduces the concepts and principles of forecasting and simulation techniques as applied to planning and decision making in organizations. Topical coverage includes time series forecasting, casual forecasting, discrete event simulation, and continuous-event simulation techniques.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

QMST 5336. Analytics.
This course introduces analytics which refers to the process of transforming data into information for making decisions. The topics include the introduction to analytics, visualization, analytics applications, and challenges related to business data. Students will learn how to use software, conduct data analysis and communicate their results.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

QMST 5342. Probability and Statistical Models.
This course introduces the concept of probability and probability distributions. It includes general and generalized linear models, inflated and mixture models, and hierarchical models. Model validity and choice will also be discussed. Prerequisite: QMST 5336.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
QMST 5599B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

QMST 5999B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit