

The Master of Science in Information Technology

Information Technology (IT) is pervasive today and is at the core of almost any business organization. The Master of Science in Information Technology program (MS-IT) is designed to provide students with a solid and forward-thinking technical foundation used to effectively plan, design, implement and manage IT solutions and systems. It prepares students to be strong technical leaders, ready to lead IT-enabled organizational change.

If you want to expand and deepen your technical skills, add to your business knowledge, prepare for systems analysis and project management roles, this degree is for you. As an MS-IT graduate, you will be prepared for a number of positions in the IT field including senior systems analyst, applications development manager, data center manager, technical services director, software engineer, database administrator, database engineer, and computer scientist. Other management-oriented roles include project manager, program manager, and line management roles in technical organizations.

Goals of the Program

MS-IT students will be involved with the common body of knowledge characteristic of all elements of technology leadership including the following:

1. The ability to solve problems, based on a knowledge of tools, concepts, and theories of information systems and other business disciplines;
2. The ability to transcend functional boundaries, particularly between technical and non-technical organizational functions, synthesizing and integrating information to make complex, short-term decisions with limited information, as well as conduct the research, competitive analysis, and environmental scanning necessary for long-term strategic decisions;
3. The ability to apply specialized skills to business and technical problems inherent in a rapidly changing global environment;
4. The ability to effectively harness and use information technology;
5. Effective written, oral and presentation skills;
6. The interpersonal and team leadership skills needed to build an organizational environment that is effective and conducive to collaboration;
7. A sense of professional and social responsibility in the conduct of technology management.

Academic Calendar

Master of Science in Information Systems and Technology courses are offered year round in four 11-week terms: Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. Classes are scheduled in the evening once a week to accommodate adult learners who are employed full time and pursuing course work on a part-time basis. Occasionally, a class will be offered in a compressed weekend format or as an International travel course. Based on admission requirements, time to complete the program can take between one and seven years. Students must complete the program within seven years after their first registration.

Admission Requirements

International applicants are subject to separate admission procedures. For current admission procedures, international applicants should consult the following: www.callutheran.edu/management.

Candidates for admission to the MS-IT program should submit a complete application portfolio at least 45 days prior to the start of the term. Admission decisions for regular graduate standing are based on a review of the following materials in the candidate's file:

1. A completed application form and non-refundable application fee;
2. Evidence of an interview with an admission counselor;
3. Official transcripts showing a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution. Normally, a grade point average of 3.0 or higher in upper division undergraduate work is expected;
4. Two letters of recommendation;
5. A personal statement;
6. Test scores. Applicants whose undergraduate records do not satisfy the criteria set forth in paragraphs A-D below must include Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores in their admission portfolio. The GMAT may be waived for candidates who present an official transcript of previous college work from a regionally accredited college or university reflecting any one of the following criteria:
 - a. An undergraduate, upper division grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale; or
 - b. A combined grade point average of 3.0 or higher for the most recent 60 credits of study consisting of any of the following: graduate course work, upper division postbaccalaureate course work (exclusive of extension or continuing education work), and upper division undergraduate course work; or
 - c. A minimum of nine credits of graduate course work completed and a 3.50 grade point average; or
 - d. A previously earned master's degree.

Admission to the MS-IT program requires at least one year of work experience and one of the following:

- A prior technical bachelor's degree and one year of hands-on programming coursework or work experience; OR

- A prior non-technical bachelor's degree and three years of technical work experience, including one year of hands-on programming coursework or experience.

Note: All applicants who have completed their undergraduate work at other than a regionally accredited U.S. institution must submit GMAT scores.

Admission Counseling

Prior to enrollment in graduate classes, the applicant must make an appointment for an advisement interview with an admission counselor. This exploratory interview will clarify individual program requirements and provide the opportunity to answer students' questions. Counselors are available by appointment.

Provisional Admission

Under some conditions, after meeting with an admission counselor and with the approval of the Program Director, a student may register for classes before completing the entire admission process. However, the Application for Admission, the \$50 application fee, and a copy of a transcript showing a bachelor's degree with an acceptable GPA and/or acceptable standardized test score must be on file in the Graduate and Adult Programs Office before the class registration can be accepted. Students are expected to complete all admission requirements in the first term of their program or they will not be permitted to enroll in subsequent terms. Provisionally admitted students are not eligible for financial aid.

International Students

International applicants are subject to separate admission procedures. For current admission procedures, international applicants should consult the following: www.callutheran.edu/management

Requirements for the Master of Science in Information Technology

The MS-IT program is composed of 12 courses (3 credits each) totaling 36 credits. Students will take 8 core courses and 4 courses in a track. Students can obtain a general MS-IT degree by selecting elective courses across tracks. Students with backgrounds that are not in Information Technology (IT) or business may need foundation courses which do not count towards the 36 credits required for the degree.

Core Courses

IT 508	Information Technology Management	3
IT 509	Data Management	3
IT 510	Software Planning and Development	3
IT 511	Data Communications and Networking	3
IT 512	Project Management	3
IT 513	Information Security	3
IT 514	Distributed Systems	3
IT 515	Organizational Behavior	3

Information Technology Electives

You will complete four elective course (12 credits) from either of the following two tracks to specialize in Information Technology Management or Data Analytics. Alternatively, students can obtain a general MS-IT degree by selecting four elective courses across both tracks.

Information Technology Management

IT 520	IT Strategy and Business Value	3
IT 521	Healthcare Information Technologies	3
IT 522	Enterprise Systems	3
IT 523	IT Architecture and Infrastructure	3
IT 524	Emergent Technologies and Issues	3
IT 582	Special Topic	3
IT 590	Internship	1-3
IT 599	IT Project	3

Data Analytics

IT 530	Principles of Data Analytics	3
IT 531	Data Mining	3
IT 532	Data Warehousing and Business Intelligence	3
IT 533	Big Data Technologies	3
IT 582	Special Topic	3

IT 590	Internship	1-3
IT 599	IT Project	3