At IST, we take on the challenges that make a difference in the world.

We solve problems and work with people, connecting them with information through the use of technology. We are making a global impact through initiatives like:

- Cyber-situational awareness tools to analyze and prevent cyber attacks
- 3-D visualizations that help the military prepare for potential terrorist attacks
- Social media that informs and engages the public during crises
- An information network in Kenya that connects laborers with job opportunities
- A web service (Weebly) that allows >12 million people to easily create their own websites
- Image-recognition software that analyzes brush strokes to detect forged paintings

Our programs, and our students, are exceptional.

At the undergraduate level, we offer three bachelor’s degrees:

- B.S. in Information Sciences and Technology
- B.S. in Security and Risk Analysis
- B.A. in Information Sciences and Technology

IST courses center on teamwork and problem-based learning, with projects focused on real-life situations and issues.

85% of our students have jobs before graduation, with a $60,154 average starting salary and $5,186 average signing bonus.

Students in the SRA program achieve NSA certification by the time they graduate.

Our students are hired by government agencies including the FBI, CIA, and NSA to work in areas such as cyber forensics, military intelligence, and public policy.

Others work for private-sector corporations to ensure data and operations are secure and to help evaluate risk associated with business decisions.

IST at Penn State

$63 million in cumulative research funding
Associate, B.S., B.A., M.S., M.P.S., and Ph.D. degrees
Nationally ranked online programs
More than 5,000 student internships
70+ new courses
5 major research centers:
- Center for Human-Computer Interaction
- Center for Cyber-Security, Information Privacy, and Trust
- Network-Centric Cognition and Information Fusion Center
- Center for Enterprise Architecture
- Center for Online Innovation in Learning

For more information:
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The Pennsylvania State University
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University Park, PA 16802
Phone: 814-865-3528
ist.psu.edu
Baccalaureate Majors
in the College of Information Sciences and Technology

INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Bachelor of Science

The IST bachelor of science degree program integrates skills connected with people, information, and technology. The program helps students prepare for careers connected with the ways people create, modify, and use information technologies and how those technologies affect individuals, organizations, and society. The ISTBS program covers topics from software development to social media to business applications for technology. Students will feel prepared to step into a career, full speed ahead, after learning to solve real-life issues from many different angles.

Design and Development Option
Build information systems

Understand programming, databases, human computer interaction, knowledge representation, search engines, and characteristics of users to build information systems.

Integration and Application Option
Use information systems to solve problems

Understand information acquisition, representation, dissemination, storage, retrieval, display, and interpretation to address real-world problems.

Information Context Option
Understand the impact of information systems

Understand the use and impact of information systems at the individual, group, organizational, national and international levels (e.g., social networks, crowdsourcing, digital natives/digital immigrants).

Bachelor of Arts

The IST bachelor of arts degree program shows students how to combine technology with the arts, humanities, social sciences, and other similar areas. In the ISTBA program, you’ll work with an academic adviser to design your own course plan based on your particular interests and skills. Examples of study areas include communication arts and sciences, pre-law, and health policy administration.

SECURITY AND RISK ANALYSIS

Bachelor of Science

If you’re interested in the Security and Risk Analysis (SRA) major, you can expect to learn how to design systems that are secure, how to measure risk, and how to ensure that proper levels of privacy are maintained for individual technology users, businesses, government, and other organizations. The SRA major requires an understanding of operating system design and operation, and the legal and cultural issues surrounding privacy, intelligence, and security.

Information and Cyber Security Option
Build secure information systems

Understand how to deal with security and privacy concerns in all types of organizations; ensure that computer systems and products are secure; and learn how to “police” cyberspace.

Intelligence Analysis and Modeling Option
Access and use of information in cyberspace

Understand information acquisition, modeling, dissemination, display, and interpretation for problems such as crisis management, business intelligence, and environmental modeling.

Social Factors and Risk Option
Understand the context surrounding risk

Understand the psychological and sociological causes of terrorism and crime and how information technology is transforming each; understand privacy policies and government regulation to ensure users that data are secure.

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Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce. U.Ed. IST 14-02