**MS in Informatics – One Year Curriculum Plan  
Data Sciences Area (30 Credits)**

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| **Fall Semester** | **Courses\*** | **Credits** | **Notes** |
| **Required** | IST 504 – Foundations of Theories and Methods of Information Sciences and Technology | 3 | Foundations |
| **Required** | IST 557 – Data Mining: Techniques and Applications | 3 | Data Sciences |
| **Required** | IST 594 – Research Topics (Scholarly Paper) | 1 | Research |
| **Required** | Research Methods  STAT 500 – Applied Statistics (recommended course) | 3 | Data Sciences |
| **Total Credits** |  | 10 |  |

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| **Spring Semester** | **Courses\*** | **Credits** | **Notes** |
| **Required** | IST 558 – Data Mining II | 3 | Data Sciences |
| **Required** | IST 594 – Research Topics (Scholarly Paper) | 2 | Research |
| **Required** | Specialization Course | 3 | Data Sciences |
| **Required** | Research Methods (choose from list) | 3 | Advisor Approval Required |
| **Total Credits** |  | 11 |  |

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| **Summer Semester** | **Courses\*** | **Credits** | **Notes** |
| **Required** | Specialization Course | 3 | Data Sciences |
| **Required** | Specialization Course | 3 | Data Sciences |
| **Required** | IST 594 – Research Topics (Scholarly Paper) | 3 | Research |
| **Total Credits** |  | 9 |  |

*\*Suggested curriculum plan with an aggressive 1-year completion goal. Course availability subject to change*

* ***Thesis Option:*** *Selecting the thesis option may require more than 1-year to complete. Also, IST 600 replaces IST 594 on the above plan.*
* *WC – World Campus, a maximum of 10 credits may be taken online*
* *Research Methods Course List* [*https://ist.psu.edu/sites/default/files/current-grad/methods-course-list.docx*](https://ist.psu.edu/sites/default/files/current-grad/methods-course-list.docx)
* *Suggested Electives - go to LP and search for any IST 5XX class that is not a required course*

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| **Scholarship and Research Integrity (SARI) Requirements** |  |
| Each student must complete the SARI training – prior to starting the program or by the end of August. | **Date completed & submitted to** [**ISTgradprograms@psu.edu**](mailto:ISTgradprograms@psu.edu) |
| **Institutional Review Board (IRB) training** |  |
| **Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training** |  |