Our Majors

The Bachelor of Science in Information Sciences and Technology (ISTBS) covers topics from developing technology solutions for business and government to using social media to aid in disaster relief efforts. This program will equip you with the skills needed to be in high demand in the job market as you use technology to solve real-life challenges.

The Bachelor of Science in Security and Risk Analysis (SRA) teaches you how to design systems that are secure, how to measure risk, and how to ensure privacy for individual technology users, businesses, government, and other organizations. With an SRA degree, you could embark on any number of exciting and challenging careers, including becoming a counter-terrorism analyst, a security specialist, or an international crime officer.

Caroline Furey, SRA ’09
Senior Consultant, IBM Global Business Services, San Francisco, CA

Caroline is a senior consultant at IBM Global Business Services. She works with Fortune 100 companies to identify technology solutions to transform their business operations.

“IST provided me the technical savvy and business acumen to jump right into the consulting world and deliver value to my clients.”

Prerak Patel, IST ’10
Systems Integration Analyst, Accenture, Philadelphia, PA

Prerak Patel is a systems integration analyst at Accenture, a global management consulting, technology services, and outsourcing company that collaborates with clients to help them become high-performance businesses and government entities.

Prerak’s role as a systems integration analyst entails project management, planning, forecasting, requirements gathering, and issues resolution.

“At IST, I learned the latest technology and developed core writing and communication skills, making me a valuable asset to any corporation after graduation.”

Neilye Garrity, IST ’04
Co-founder of Candid Career, Annapolis, MD

Neilye Garrity is the co-founder of Candid Career, a video-based career exploration website that hosts informational interviews with industry professionals. Candid Career’s notion is that we can all learn from the experiences of others. The company is dedicated to providing the inside scoop on careers so viewers will be informed and ready for what lies ahead.

Neilye worked as an IT consultant for IBM in the Washington, D.C. area for six years prior to starting Candid Career.

“IST provided me with the interpersonal skills and technical knowledge to help me start my company.”
David Rusenko, IST ’07
Co-founder, Weebly, San Francisco, CA

The CEO and co-founder of Weebly, a tech start-up based out of San Francisco, California. Weebly is an extremely simple and powerful way for anyone to create a website, blog, or online store.

More than 10 million people have created a website with Weebly, and 12 percent of the U.S. population visits a Weebly website every month.

Weebly was named one of Time’s 50 best websites of 2007, and has been featured in Newsweek, The Wall Street Journal, Entrepreneur, and Inc. magazines, as well as on NBC and the BBC. Rusenko was named to Forbes’ “30 under 30” list in 2011.

“My biggest takeaway from IST was learning people skills through group work and presentations. IST develops really well-rounded graduates.”

Jimmy Mesta, SRA ’09
Application Security Engineer, Redspin Inc., Carpinteria, CA

Jimmy works as an application and network-level offensive security professional at Redspin Inc., a small security firm focused on the health care and enterprise security. He has also worked as an application security lead at Agilent Technologies, a Fortune 500 manufacturing company.

“A degree in Security and Risk Analysis allowed me to be on the forefront of an industry that is becoming more in demand every day. IST was able to equip me with the necessary skills to identify and mitigate risk from a technical and policy standpoint. This has helped me every day in my job.”

Korey Wallace, IST ’09
Systems Engineer, BAE Systems, Wayne, NJ

Korey works as a systems engineer for BAE Systems, a global defense and aerospace company that delivers a full range of products and services for air, land, and naval forces, as well as advanced electronics, information technology solutions, and customer support services.

“IST provided me with the education and opportunity to learn the top technologies used in the industry, while also developing the communication skills and attitude I needed to perform in my role as a systems engineer.”

What are the job opportunities like?
Job recruiters go crazy for Penn State IST graduates!

IST employment rates since 2007 average 85 percent.

Graduates frequently get signing bonuses in the $5,000 range when they are hired.

The average starting salary for an IST graduate is $60,154.

What will you do when you graduate?

VIRTUALLY ANYTHING!
IST graduates are hired everywhere:

Business
Consulting
Cyber security
Entertainment industry
Financial services
Government agencies
Health systems
Information management
Manufacturing
National defense contractors
Project management
Telecommunications
Web development

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