Introduction to Digital Banking (BIS521E)

Purpose: The main theme of the module is to produce graduates that are highly competent in their understanding of the impact of digitisation on the banking sector.

Content: Physical vs. digital maturity of banks, digital banking channels, future of retail banks, mobile banking, social banking, customer-centric banking, and infrastructure concerns associated with disruptive technologies.

Credits: 16

Information Security, Risk and Controls (BIS522E)

Purpose: To provide understanding of the various theories, best practices, frameworks and techniques for implementing information security.

Content: Confidentiality, integrity, availability, trust, ethics, and privacy aspects associated with Information Security in the IS/IT discipline and Banking domain.

Credits: 32

Other Involvement

Tutoring
All Full-time Honours students are required to assist the Department with tutoring and course administration for undergraduate programmes. This involvement should not exceed 6 hours per working week, and will be remunerated at the postgraduate rate.

Startup Week (February)
Startup Week aims to orientate you as postgraduate students and establish an Honours group identity and team dynamics. This is a week-long programme.

Industry Visit
The Industry Visit has proven to be a valuable experience for many students. This week-long visit to East London companies exposes students to the life of an Information Systems professional.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Why Study Information Systems Honours?

Information Technology has become a vital component of business strategy, and the Information Systems manager faces a challenging task with high corporate visibility, important decision-making opportunities, and a career path which could lead all the way to the top. Since there are frequently no right or wrong answers, your creative abilities, communication skills and business knowledge will be just as important as the technology that you deal with.

The Honours programme introduces students to research and advances students in the study of Information Systems, providing a controlled maturing ground for students in preparation for the Information Systems profession. Career opportunities in Information Systems offer you freedom, personal growth, job satisfaction, and an above average income from day one.

Jobs our graduates can apply for include:
- Database administrator
- IT consultant
- Multimedia programmer
- Systems analyst
- Technopreneur
- Information systems manager
- IT technical support officer
- Network engineer
- Systems developer

The IS Honours course addresses the following objectives:

- Introduces students to research in the field of Information Systems;
- Advances progressive application of Information Systems knowledge;
- Prepares students for future positions of leadership in Information Systems;
- Facilitates the development of professional communication skills.

Entrance Requirements and Procedure:

The minimum entrance requirement is a 60% average in Final Year Information Systems subjects. Once applications are submitted, all candidates meeting the mark requirements are invited for an interview and writing assessment. Meeting the entrance requirement does not guarantee selection for the degree as there are limited spaces available each year. For further information please contact the Department.

Format of Instruction

The Honours programme makes use of discussion seminars, case analysis and formal lectures to facilitate student involvement in the learning process. Staff / student contact sessions will vary from formal lectures, given by staff members, to student driven tutorials.

The small class size allows students to engage with one another and lecturers. Team-based work allows students to learn how to work with other students, while written assignments and presentation develop a student's ability to argue soundly and communicate clearly in both oral and written form.

Facilities

Each student is provided with their own private desk in the Information Systems Honours Laboratory. This includes the use of a computer, and the availability of a wireless connection should students wish to make use of their own equipment.

Modules

The structure of the Honours programme focuses on ensuring that students have a firm understanding of the relevance of Information Systems to business, government and the banking sector. Therefore, the modules aim to introduce the Honours class to the core concepts associated with Information Systems Management, Information Security, Risk and Controls; and, Requirements Management and Development (which is associated with systems development). Additionally, the students are given exposure to the latest trends in the banking sector in the Introduction to Digital Banking module, which focuses on the impact of disruptive technologies to traditional banking.

Students are introduced to research in the Information Systems Research Methods module, which assists in preparing them to undertake a research treatise. The Information Systems Research Treatise is a substantive module, which requires students to develop their soft skills, such as problem-solving, critical thought, presentation ability, and academic writing skills while undertaking their research. The research treatise is an original research topic (approved by the Department) that is investigated by the student under the guidance of their supervisor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Commerce Honours (Information Systems) – 60504</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Systems Research Treatise (IFS503E)</td>
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<td>Information Systems Research Methods (IFS516E)</td>
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<td>Requirements Management and Development (IFS513E)</td>
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<td>Information Systems Management (IFS527E)</td>
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<td>Introduction to Digital Banking (BIS521E)</td>
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<td>Information Security, Risk and Controls (BIS522E)</td>
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The descriptions of each module in the degree are given below:

- **Information Systems Research Treatise (IFS503E)**
  - **Purpose:** To apply knowledge and skills gained in the research methods module in order to complete a mini-treatise.
  - **Content:** Research proposal, literature review, conceptual model and research article. Topics to be researched will be contextualised within the Banking domain and incorporate key themes of Security and Governance.
  - **Credits:** 32

- **Information Systems Research Methods (IFS516E)**
  - **Purpose:** To provide learners with the knowledge and skills necessary to conduct research within the Information Systems discipline.
  - **Content:** Systems Theory, research paradigms, methods, and techniques
  - **Credits:** 16

- **Requirements Management and Development (IFS513E)**
  - **Purpose:** To introduce students to the basic processes within a Banking context.
  - **Content:** Contextualised processes necessary for an understanding of the Banking environment.
  - **Credits:** 16

- **Information Systems Management (IFS527E)**
  - **Purpose:** To give learners an understanding of the issues relevant to managing people, technology, and processes within Banking Information Systems.
  - **Content:** IS/IT strategy, IS/IT governance, and IS/IT ethical issues
  - **Credits:** 16