

MIS Ph.D. Program Structure
The Terry College of Business
The University of Georgia
(Updated in May 2009)

The Ph.D. program structure is designed to maximize the emphasis on research. This means that as students approach the end of their second year they will be focusing as much on conducting research and writing papers, as on studying for prelims. It is important to note that this document presents the *minimum* requirements. We encourage students to take additional methods courses to help them better prepare for doing research.

MIS Major Courses (minimum 4 required)

MIST 9700 Management Information Systems Research Seminar I (3 hours)

This course explores applicable research theories and frameworks, research concepts, and exemplary MIS research.

MIST 9750 Individual Level Theories in Information Systems (3 hours)

This course focuses on individual level IS research.

MIST 9710 Organizational Level Theories in Information Systems (3 hours)

This course focuses on organizational level IS research.

MIST 9760 Management Information Systems Topics Seminar (3 hours)

This course focuses on topics not covered in other IS research seminars. Topics vary but typically include IS-enabled value creation, economics of IS, design science, inter-organizational level IS research, and group level IS research. This course will be taken during the first and second year in the program.

Research Courses (minimum 5 required)

It is expected that all students will have completed a business statistics course *before* entering the Ph.D. program. The course should have covered introductory statistics topics such as means, standard deviations, t-tests, F-tests, etc. If students have not had this course, they need to remedy the situation before starting the program.

Students have to take the Methodology sequence of the MIS, Marketing, and Management Departments at the Terry College. The sequence involves five courses. Four of the courses are required and one is an elective.

First Year Fall: (1) MIST 9770 Measurement and Philosophy of Science AND
(2) A doctoral level regression class (e.g., PSYC 6430, STAT 4230/6230, etc.)

First Year Spring: (3) MARK 9650 Applied Multivariate Analysis

Second Year Fall: (4) MGMT 9610 Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling

Second Year Fall or Spring: (5) A graduate level UGA course that covers lab, survey, or qualitative/field research, or an additional statistics course. We recommend the following courses:

MIST 9740 PhD Seminar in Qualitative Research

MGMT 9620 Advanced Topics in Structural Equation Modeling

MARK 9750 Causal Modeling

PSYC8990 Psychometrics

Minor Courses (3 required)

Students select minors of their choice outside the MIS Department. These minors can be in other Terry College disciplines or in other disciplines across the University. The student chooses a minor and the courses in consultation with the graduate advisor. All courses selected must be in the same discipline and must be doctoral level seminars. The graduate advisor may make exceptions if the student presents compelling rationale.

Research Apprenticeship (2 required)

Students must enroll in MIST 8990 (Directed Study) during the summer of the first and second years of the program, to work on a research paper. See the "MIS PhD Program Guidelines" document for further details about this research paper.

Teaching Courses and Mentoring

GRSC 7777 - A 3-hour course required by the graduate school for students with no prior teaching experience

Course Sequence

The recommended *minimum* course sequence is shown below. Course sequencing may not work perfectly, so some students may end up taking major courses, minor courses or methods courses at different times, including the summers. The "normal" course load for Ph.D. students not on assistantship is three 3-hour courses for a total of 9 hours per semester. The "normal" course load for Ph.D. students on assistantship is four 3-hour courses for a total of 12 hours per semester. Students may take more than four courses (12 hours) only with permission of the Graduate Coordinator.

Fall 1 st Year	Spring 1 st Year	Summer 1 st Year	Fall 2 nd Year	Spring 2 nd Year	Summer 2 nd Year
MIST 9700 MIS Research I	MIST 9760 MIS Topics	MIST 8990 Directed Study	MGMT 9610 Introduction to SEM	MIST 9760 MIS Topics	MIST 8990 Directed Study
Regression	MARK 9650 Multivariate		Minor course	Research Methods Elective	
MIST 9770 Philosophy of Science and Measurement	MIST 9750 Ind Level IS Research		Minor course	MIST 9710 Org Level IS Research	
GRSC 7777 Teaching	MIST 8990 Directed Study		MIST 8990 Directed Study	Minor course	
		First Year Exam	IS Competency Exam		

Fall 3 rd Year	Spring 3 rd Year	Summer 3 rd Year	Fall 4 th Year	Spring 4 th Year
MIST 9000 Doctoral Research	MIST 9000 Doctoral Research	MIST 9300 Doctoral Dissertation	MIST 9300 Doctoral Dissertation	MIST 9300 Doctoral Dissertation
Written Prelims*	Dissertation Proposal			Dissertation Defense
Oral Prelims				

* Written Prelims may be taken at the end of the 2d year summer.