

MISSION

To produce PhD graduates with expertise that straddle the IT and business sector for R&D units and applied academic institutions.

GOAL

To develop researchers / educators who address deep technology challenges in real information systems that impact business processes or management, or who develop tools and methodologies to translate business goals to technology solutions.

Our PhD graduates will be capable of collaborating with faculty members from different research areas, designing technology solutions for real-world problems and applications, while still producing top-rate academic publications.

EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS OF GRADUATES

R&D units require PhD graduates with a system / business-view of technology, to complement graduates from other institutions who are trained to work on component technologies.

Academic institutions, particularly software schools require PhD graduates with application / system building and management skills.

Industry requires PhD graduates with the skills to develop tools and methodologies to translate business goals into technology requirements, and also to build technology-based solutions that contribute to revenue growth or cost reduction.



OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

Inter-disciplinary work

Our PhD students are trained to work across research areas. The curriculum covers five areas that have high market demands – Data Management & Analytics, Information Security & Trust, Information Systems & Management, Intelligent Systems & Decisions Analytics, and Software Systems.

Industry-relevant training

Our PhD students will acquire professional skills that are important in industrial R&D, such as competitive intelligence & intellectual property management. Students will have opportunities to network with academic researchers and industry practitioners.

Applied research

The programme provides opportunities for students to work with industry datasets and commercial platforms. Students will learn to conduct their research in the context of real information systems and business goals.



ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

The minimum entry requirement for admission into the PhD programme is a Bachelor degree with good honors, or a Master degree, in a relevant discipline. Candidates should be keen to pursue research at the intersection of IT and business.

Other requirements include:

- **Good TOEFL scores**
- **Good GRE / GMAT scores**
- **Academic References**
- **Personal & Research Statements**

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships are available for full-time PhD students on a competitive basis. Students on full scholarship will receive a monthly stipend, in addition to a tuition fee waiver or subsidy. Subject to satisfactory progress, the scholarship may be renewed annually, for a maximum tenure of four years. Students may also receive extra emoluments from research assistantships or instruction assistantships.

As part of their Post-Graduate by Research (PGR) training, SMU PGR Scholars are expected to work, without extra remuneration, as part-time Research Assistant / Teaching Assistant for up to seven hours per week.

For more information, please refer to the information on the website:
www.smu.edu.sg/gso/scholarship_and_financial_aid.asp

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The PhD in Information Systems programme only accepts full-time applicants:

| Intake Term | Closing Date |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Term 1 (August) | 31 January of intake year |
| Term 2 (January) | 30 June of prior year |

Please visit our website for online application details

THE PROGRAMME

This is a direct PhD programme, with a maximum candidature period of seven years and a minimum period of three years for full-time students.

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

In the first two years of study, students will enroll in intensive courses to build their research depth and breadth, as well as professional skills:

Depth Requirements: Students will enroll in the advanced course in the primary area, and undertake research apprenticeship with their primary advisors. Each advanced course covers important research papers on key topics and techniques that students need to be acquainted with in order to carry out research in an area.

Breadth Requirements: Students will attend courses in Data Management & Analytics, Information Security & Trust, Information Systems & Management, Intelligent Systems & Interaction and Software Systems. The breadth requirements are intended to help the PhD students establish a broad academic foundation. In addition, students will attend the advanced course in one of the breadth areas.



CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

40 Course Units (CUs) in total, comprising:

- Coursework (7 CUs)
- Empirical Research Projects (3 CUs)
- Advanced Research Topics (2 CUs)
- Dissertation (28 CUs)

PHD IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS

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