

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Our Mission

We believe in the power of opportunity through technology—the kind that lifts people up, sparks innovation and transforms lives. The College of Information Science and Technology actively cultivates a thriving community of learners and innovators. Together we create pathways for social mobility and transformational growth in education and research, ensuring that everyone has a chance to contribute, succeed, and make our world better than we found it.

Our Vision

Transforming lives through career-relevant computing education and impactful research for the public good.

General Information

Overview of Programs

The College is organized into three major units that manage the degree programs: the Department of Computer Science (CS), the Department of Information Systems and Quantitative Analysis (ISQA), and the School of Interdisciplinary Informatics (Si2).

The College of IS&T offers six undergraduate degree programs:

1. BS in Artificial Intelligence
2. BS in Applied Computing & Informatics
3. BS in Bioinformatics
4. BS in Computer Science
5. BS in Cybersecurity
6. BS in Management Information Systems

The College of IS&T also offers undergraduate minors across many of these content areas.

Accreditation/External Designation Information

Major	Degree	Accreditation Body
Computer Science	BS	ABET
Management Information Systems	BS	ABET
Cybersecurity	BS	NSA CAE-CD, CAE-CO

College Contact Information

Dean's Office: 402.554.2380
Advising: 402.554.3819

Program Website (<http://www.ist.unomaha.edu>)

Admission Requirements for the College of IS&T

Application deadlines for the College of Information Science & Technology are as follows:

Fall Semester - First day of fall semester classes
Spring Semester - First day of spring semester classes
Summer Sessions - July 1

Incoming first year students must meet general university admission requirements to be admitted into the College of Information Science & Technology.

Transfer admission from other colleges or universities: Students may transfer into the College of Information Science & Technology from other institutions by completing the application process described above and meeting the minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 (on a 4.00 scale) with a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Academic Requirements for Degrees in the College of IS&T

Number of Hours to Graduate

A minimum of 120 credit hours is required for a Bachelor of Science degree in the College of IS&T.

Minimum GPA

A GPA of 2.5 or higher is required to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of IS&T.

Transfer Credit Policy

A maximum of 64 credit hours are accepted from an accredited community college. A minimum grade of C- is required to transfer credits toward College of IS&T degree programs with the exception of business courses and the equivalent of UNO's CIST 1400 and CSCI 1620, which require a grade of C or better.

Unacceptable Credits

Courses such as ENGL 1090, ENGL 1100, MATH 1210, and orientation courses in other colleges or divisions may not be counted as part of the minimum 120 credit hours for College of IS&T degree programs. The course, US 1010 Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills for the Modern Day Student, can, however, be counted as elective credit if taken within the first 30 hours of the degree program. A maximum of four credit hours of different Physical Education Activities (PEA) courses may be applied toward the general elective area.

Retroactive Credit Policy

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/>)

Advanced Placement Credits

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/>)

Military Credit

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/>)

International Baccalaureate (IB) Credit

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/undergraduate-transfer-credit/>)

Placement Exams and Credit by Department Policies/Practices

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/student-services-a-z/testing-center/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/student-services-a-z/testing-center/>)

Residency Requirement

Thirty of the last 36 credit hours must be University of Nebraska at Omaha courses.

Quality of Work

Students in a College of IS&T undergraduate program must obtain a grade of C- or better in each class for the purpose of meeting General Education, College of Information Science & Technology (IS&T), and Departmental requirements for College of IS&T degrees with the exception of CIST 1400 and CSCI 1620, which require a minimum grade of C. Programs may have additional quality of work requirements.

Good Academic Standing Policy

A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 is required by the College of Information Science & Technology.

Student Academic Course Load

Students shall not carry 18 or more semester hours of work during the fall semester, 19 or more semester hours during the spring semester and 12 semester hours during the summer sessions unless they have maintained an average of "B" (3.0) in a regular 15-hour load during the preceding semester. Permission to register for additional semester hours should be obtained from the student's academic advisor. For more details, see the University Enrollment Policies (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/enrollment/>).

Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) Grades

Courses required for College of IS&T undergraduate programs may be taken on a Credit/No Credit basis as described by the University Policy (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/grades/>) with the following limitations:

- A minimum grade of C- is required in to be awarded Credit in undergraduate courses applied to IS&T undergraduate major, minor, or certificate program requirements.
- Credit/No Credit may not be used for completion of CIST1400 or CSCI1620 in any IS&T undergraduate major, minor, or certificate.
- A maximum of nine credit hours taken on a Credit/No Credit basis can be applied to College of IS&T undergraduate major requirements, excluding free electives and general education courses not specifically required by the major. Use of Credit/No Credit for free elective and unrestricted general education courses in an IS&T undergraduate degree program of study are subject to general University limits.
- A maximum of three hours taken as Credit/No Credit can be applied to meet graduation requirements for any IS&T minor or undergraduate certificate.

Individual majors, minors, or certificate programs within IS&T may place further limitations on the use of Credit/No Credit to meet program requirements. Any such restrictions must be published in the corresponding catalog entry for each program, and the College policy applies in the absence thereof. Students should consult with their academic advisors if they have questions about Credit/No Credit within specific programs.

Students taking IS&T-based courses that are majoring in degree programs outside of IS&T are encouraged to consult with advising staff from their

major to determine whether an IS&T course taken as Credit/No Credit can be used towards their graduation requirements.

For deadlines related to electing CR/NC and other restrictions relative to its use based on a student's class standing, see the campus policy.

Completion of an Incomplete Grade

To receive an incomplete, students must contact their instructor prior to the end of the semester, request a grade of incomplete, and make arrangements to complete the work. The rules which govern the issuance of an incomplete are as follows:

1. The grade "I" is used by an instructor at the end of a semester or summer session to designate incomplete work in a course. It is given when a student, due to circumstances such as illness, military service, hardship, or death in the immediate family, is unable to complete the requirements of the course in the term in which the student is registered for credit. Incompletes will only be given if the student has already substantially completed the major requirements of the course.
2. Each instructor will judge each situation. The instructor will document the incomplete work and the conditions for removal of the incomplete grade, provide a copy to the student, and file this with the Assistant Dean for Student Success. If the instructor is at the University at the time of removal, they will supervise the makeup work and report the permanent grade.
3. In the event the instructor is not available at the time of the student's application for removal of an incomplete, the department chairperson will supervise the removal of the incomplete and turn in the permanent grade for the student.
4. A student shall have no longer than the end of the next regular semester following receipt of the "I" to remove the incomplete. After that time, the "I" will automatically become a "W," or such other grade specified by the instructor depending on the amount and quality of the coursework previously completed. Exceptions to this rule will be permitted if initiated by the student and approved by the instructor, department chairperson, and dean. Exceptions to this rule will be made only in response to circumstances over which the student has no control, and these must be detailed.
5. In registering for courses, students receiving one or more "I" grades from the previous semester should take into account the time needed to complete the required work and plan their schedules accordingly.

Repeatable Grades/Courses

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/grades/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/grades/>)

Grade Appeal Policy and Process

#The Nebraska Regents By-Laws and the College of Information Science & Technology Policies and Procedures require a process that allows a student to appeal a final course grade. This process allows a student to initiate a grade appeal when the student believes a course grade was awarded prejudicially or capriciously.

Capricious means that the instructor acted with a sudden change of mind without notifying students about criteria and/or requirements which ultimately affected the student's grade. That is, the instructor acted impulsively and unpredictably.

Prejudicial means the instructor treated the student differently, apart from the norm, thereby detrimentally affecting the student's grade.

The student **MUST** provide specific information regarding how the instructor behaved in a capricious or prejudicial manner in awarding the student's grade.

Individuals who believe that their grade in a particular course does not properly reflect their course performance should first contact the instructor to determine the rationale for the grade or if there was an error in reporting. Consultation with the instructor should take place before taking any formal action in regard to a grade appeal. The student must document in writing all conversations with (or attempts to contact) the instructor about the student's grade.

After the instructor has provided the rationale for the grade in question and has indicated that no error in reporting was made, the individual may then wish to petition the department or school for reconsideration. In such instances, the student should contact the department chair or school director to forward the grade appeal to the appropriate Undergraduate Program Committee (UPC), which will evaluate the grade appeal. If the instructor whose grade is being appealed is a member of the Undergraduate Program Committee, then they will recuse themselves from the grade appeal deliberation. The Undergraduate Program Committee will schedule a Student Grade Appeal Hearing within thirty (30) calendar days following the receipt of the individual's grade appeal. If the appeal hearing must be held after more than thirty (30) calendar days since the filing, the Dean or their designee must approve of the delay and the Dean or their designee shall provide a written explanation to the student and instructor, as to the reason(s) for the delay.

#At the hearing the student may present: the syllabus for the course, materials which were used to ascertain grades in the course (exams, papers, and so on), oral or written statements from students of the instructor's classes—past and/or present, the oral testimony or written statements of faculty and administrative employees, the testimony or written statement of any other person who the UPC Chair allows to provide information. Extraneous, immaterial or irrelevant materials, as determined by the UPC Chair, may NOT be presented.

#At the hearing the instructor may present: the syllabus for the course, materials that were used to determine grades in the course, a spreadsheet containing all recorded grades for all class members (student names and ID #'s MUST be removed), oral or written statements from students members of the instructor's classes—past and/or present, the oral testimony or written statements of faculty and administrative employees, the testimony or written statement of any other person who the UPC Chair allows to provide information. Extraneous or irrelevant materials, as determined by the UPC Chair, may NOT be presented.

Upon completion of the hearing, all present are excused except the members of the Undergraduate Program Committee. Further discussion may follow. A vote to support or deny the grade appeal is made by secret ballot. The UPC Chair counts the votes in view of the committee and votes only if necessary to break a tie. The majority prevails. The ballots are destroyed immediately, and the vote count may be revealed **ONLY** to the IS&T Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs.

The Undergraduate Program Committee has the authority to change the grade awarded to the student. If the grade is changed, there will be no permanent record of the original grade. The IS&T Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs shall contact the UNO Registrar to officially request the grade change.

The student and instructor will be informed in writing by the UPC Chair of the decision made by the Committee.

#If an individual believes that the department or school action did not comply with the due process procedures or did not provide legitimate relief, he or she may petition the Academic Committee in the College of Information Science & Technology. The Academic Committee is the appellate body for grade appeals after a student has received a decision at the department or school level. Students wishing to appeal a grade

to the IS&T Academic Committee should contact the Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs in the IS&T Dean's Office, who will forward the grade appeal to the Committee. If the instructor whose grade is being appealed is a member of the IS&T Academic Committee, then he or she will recuse themselves from the grade appeal deliberation. The process followed for this appeal mirrors that followed by the Undergraduate Program Committee.

Academic Amnesty

POLICY STATEMENT: Academic Amnesty provides relief from a poor academic record acquired within the University of Nebraska system by excluding substandard coursework with a final grade of "D" or "F" from a student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) calculation. Academic Amnesty will not remove course(s) or grade(s) from the transcript but once granted, will not count as part of the overall GPA.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for Academic Amnesty, students must:

- Have been out of the Nebraska system for at least one calendar year (12-month period).
- Have substandard coursework ("F" or "D" grades) earned within the University of Nebraska system (UNO, UNL, UNK, UNMC) prior to the year out (substandard grades earned after the year out will not be included in the Academic Amnesty contract).
- Be admitted as a degree-seeking student at the University of Nebraska.

Amnesty Requirements:

- Academic Amnesty will begin with the first course(s) taken upon return to UNO.
- Students may apply for Academic Amnesty at any time after taking the one-year break.
- After returning from the one-year break, demonstrate academic success in new UNO coursework.
Academic success may be demonstrated by one of the following:
 - Completing at least 12 semester hours (simultaneous or sequential) with a minimum of 3.0 cumulative GPA,
 - Completing at least 24 semester hours (simultaneous or sequential) with a minimum of 2.5 cumulative GPA.
- Students must maintain continuous enrollment (at least six (6) semester hours completed within any 12-month period).
- Students will work with their academic advisor to select the coursework to be amnestied.
- Students must inform an academic advisor when the Academic Amnesty requirements are met.

Notes:

- All amnestied coursework will remain on the student's academic record (transcript); however, the courses will not be included in calculation of the student's grade point average. Courses will be annotated "Academic Amnesty Excluded from GPA" on the transcript.
- Once Academic Amnesty is granted, students will not be eligible for honors at graduation. Students are still eligible for Dean's List and Chancellor's List honors.
- While demonstrating academic success, no changes are made to the student's academic record. If a student's cumulative GPA is still below standard, the students will continue to be reported as "continued on probation." Should the student revert to substandard academic performance while working on Academic Amnesty, the student can still be suspended. Academic Amnesty is intended to provide relief from the past without providing immunity from future substandard academic performance.

- Students must still meet all university and college requirements to graduate.

Academic Probation and Suspension

Probation

Probation constitutes a period of formal warning that a student is doing unsatisfactory work. A student whose cumulative grade point average is below 2.0 after having attempted six or more semester hours of study will be placed on probation. Probationary status will remain in effect as long as the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) remains below 2.0. No student will be allowed to enroll for any course on a Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit basis while on probation.

The student is encouraged to use every opportunity while on probation to seek counsel and guidance from various university agencies which have been established to offer assistance and academic support. For information on such services, the student should consult with their academic advisor or counselor.

Suspension

Students who are on probation will be suspended at the end of the spring semester if their semester grade point average is lower than 2.0 and their cumulative grade point average (GPA) falls below the following standards:

Hours Attempted	Cumulative GPA
0-12	No Suspension
13-45	1.75
46 or more	2.00

Academic suspension under these conditions will be automatic and will be for a minimum period of one year.

Students placed on suspension will be notified by the College of Information Science & Technology and given instructions on how to appeal, should they choose to do so, as well as any applicable deadlines associated with an appeal.

Appeals properly filed shall delay implementation of the suspension until the appropriate appeal committee has ruled on the appeal. However, if the appeal is denied, the student shall be disenrolled and tuition shall be refunded.

Students will only be suspended at the end of the spring term. This rule applies to all UNO colleges, including the Division of Continuing Studies and all University of Nebraska-Lincoln Omaha-based programs in the Colleges of Architecture, Agriculture, Education and Human Resources, and Engineering.

Reinstatement Policy Following Academic Suspension

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/grades/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/grades/>)

Academic Advising

The College of IS&T's undergraduate academic advisors recognize that students have individual academic, career, and personal needs that may require special assistance. Below are some guidelines on how academic advisors help ensure success. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with their advisor regularly.

What do IS&T academic advisors do?

IS&T academic advisors explain the rules and requirements of College of IS&T programs and help students understand how they apply to individual situations. The advisors prepare each student record so that students meet all the requirements for the degree in the final audit process. In addition, advisors provide advice about which degree-program specific courses and scheduling will be most helpful. They can also help with difficult situations such as concerns about grades, course instruction, time management, scheduling conflicts, or other academic issues.

When should I see an academic advisor?

First and second-year students in the College of IS&T are required to meet with an advisor every semester. Third and fourth-year students in good academic standing are strongly encouraged, though not required, to continue to meet with an advisor at least once per semester to plan their classes, to make sure all records are up-to-date, and to catch any problems early. All fourth-year students are required to schedule a meeting for a graduation check when they reach 91 earned hours. Students majoring in Applied Computing & Informatics are required to meet with an academic advisor every semester.

Any student whose GPA falls below 2.5 will be required to meet with an academic advisor regardless of class standing.

Advising Holds

Advising holds are automatically placed each semester for first-year students, second-year students, all Applied Computing & Informatics students, and for any student whose GPA is below a 2.5.

Student Holds

<https://nextcatalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/enrollment/> (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/aboutuno/registration-to-graduation/enrollment/>)

Graduation Check

When students reach 91 hours of completed coursework, they must request a graduation check to be done by an academic advisor. Assuming satisfactory completion of all approved courses and degree requirements, this process will assure the student's graduation date. Should this procedure not be followed, responsibility for meeting graduation requirements falls to the student and may prevent graduation on the anticipated date.

Application for Degree

Each student who expects to receive a diploma must file an Application for Degree whether or not that student plans to attend the commencement ceremony. The Application for Degree is available online by logging in to MavLINK. Announcements about deadlines are also posted in MavLINK.

It is the responsibility of the student to inform the Registrar's Office of their graduation plans and to provide a diploma mailing address. Failure to meet these stipulations may necessitate postponement of graduation until the following semester.