



**NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM**

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**Sponsoring Institution(s):** Northwest Missouri State University

**Program Title:** Information Systems

**Degree/Certificate:** Master of Science

**Options:** Click here to enter text.

**Delivery Site(s):** Maryville, Missouri

**CIP Classification:** 11.0101

\*CIP code can be cross-referenced with programs offered in your region on MDHE's program inventory [higher.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp](http://higher.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp)

**Implementation Date:** Fall 2017

**Cooperative Partners:** None

\*If this is a collaborative program, form CL must be included with this proposal

**AUTHORIZATION:**

Jamie Hooyman, Vice Provost

Name/Title of Institutional Officer

Jamie Hooyman 3-27-17  
Signature Date

Jamie Hooyman

660-562-1277

Person to Contact for More Information

Telephone



## PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

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Institution Name Northwest Missouri State University  
Program Name M.S. in Information Systems  
Date 3/17/2017

(Although all of the following guidelines may not be applicable to the proposed program, please carefully consider the elements in each area and respond as completely as possible in the format below. Quantification of performance goals should be included wherever possible.)

### 1. Student Preparation

- Any special admissions procedures or student qualifications required for this program which exceed regular university admissions, standards, e.g., ACT score, completion of core curriculum, portfolio, personal interview, etc. Please note if no special preparation will be required.

Completion of a undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university with an undergraduate grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants are expected to have a major or minor in an information systems, computer science, business, or engineering discipline, including coursework in: a. Information systems, b. Statistics, c. STEM field, d. GRE 285

- Characteristics of a specific population to be served, if applicable.  
Our faculty teaching in the program will adhere to the HLC guidelines for qualified faculty following Assumed Practice B.2.b in which faculty with terminal degrees will teach in this graduate program. We are not proposing to follow the minimally qualified basis of using Tested Experience.

### 2. Faculty Characteristics

- Any special requirements (degree status, training, etc.) for assignment of teaching for this degree/certificate.  
Our faculty teaching in the program will adhere to the HLC guidelines for qualified faculty following Assumed Practice B.2.b in which faculty with terminal degrees will teach in this graduate program. We are not proposing to follow the minimally qualified basis of using Tested Experience
- Estimated percentage of credit hours that will be assigned to full time faculty. Please use the term "full time faculty" (and not FTE) in your descriptions here.  
100 percent full time faculty
- Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation.

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Faculty will participate in university service and student support activities. They will also be expected to meet the scholarly requirements of their rank. Teaching innovations and professional activities are reflected on annual faculty evaluations.

### 3. Enrollment Projections

- Student FTE majoring in program by the end of five years.  
120
- Percent of full time and part time enrollment by the end of five years.  
100 percent – full time

### 4. Student and Program Outcomes

- Number of graduates per annum at three and five years after implementation.  
80-90 graduates per year at the three and five year period
- Special skills specific to the program.  
Students will be able to analyze a problem, and identify and define the requirements appropriate for a solution, determine appropriate networking and security practices and generate policies to support these practices, perform data analytics using spreadsheets and other analysis tools to make and communicate informed decisions, contribute and lead team efforts to design, implement, and evaluate a computer-based solution to meet determined requirements, and apply a professional code of ethics to computing situations.
- Proportion of students who will achieve licensing, certification, or registration.  
No certifications expected.
- Performance on national and/or local assessments, e.g., percent of students scoring above the 50th percentile on normed tests; percent of students achieving minimal cut-scores on criterion-referenced tests. Include expected results on assessments of general education and on exit assessments in a particular discipline as well as the name of any nationally recognized assessments used.  
N/A
- Placement rates in related fields, in other fields, unemployed.  
We seek to follow the placement rates of the highly successful MS in Applied Computer Science program. The past four years have shown high placement, most recently 100% with over 80% of the graduates responding:  
<http://www.nwmissouri.edu/careerserv/PDF/PlacementReport.pdf#page=61>

- Transfer rates, continuous study.  
N/A

#### 5. Program Accreditation

- Institutional plans for accreditation, if applicable, including accrediting agency and timeline. **If there are no plans to seek specialized accreditation, please provide a rationale.**  
There are no plans for specialized accreditation for this program.

#### 6. Alumni and Employer Survey

- Expected satisfaction rates for alumni, *including timing and method of surveys.*  
We will be very interested to learn from early co-horts what worked best and what could be improved and will plan to survey each completer class. This will be surveyed twice a year for the first 2-3 years.
- Expected satisfaction rates for employers, including timing and method of surveys.  
Our employers have been very satisfied with our graduates in the Applied Computer Science program and we anticipate similar satisfaction with this program.

#### 7. Institutional Characteristics

- Characteristics demonstrating why your institution is particularly well-equipped to support the program.  
The institution has tripled international enrollment in the past three years and expanded our international recruitment efforts. The faculty in the School of Computer Science and Information Systems area have over ten years of experience educating computing specialists in our Applied Computer Science MS program. Placement has been close to 100% every year with starting salaries averaging \$70,000. We will take knowledge gained from this experience to fast-track a program to over 200 students in three years.



**F. Requirements for thesis, internship or other capstone experience:**  
Students must complete 24 hours in the program before enrolling in the capstone project class.

**G. Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation:**  
N/A



**STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full Time	22	52	78	100	120
Part Time					
Total	22	52	78	100	120

Please provide a rationale regarding how student enrollment projections were calculated:

Our numbers are based on current enrollment in the Northwest – St. Joseph information systems program and projected growth mirroring our other graduate computer science program. Our purpose in creating this program is to compete at a national level for students. Our primary focus will be students from south Asia, specifically India. Northwest has targeted recruitment in south Asia for over ten years and has recruited close to 500 students to Maryville in graduate programming. The Associate Provost of Graduate Studies and Special Programs and the Director of International Programs have worked closely with international recruiters in the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in southern India to benchmark a nationally competitive program.

Our program has STEM alignment which adds the attraction of the currently proposed OPT extensions for jobs after completion.

Provide a rationale for proposing this program, including evidence of market demand and societal need supported by research:

The program has a broad curriculum with instruction on topics that an Information Systems (IS) or Information Technology (IT) manager needs to be effective. The job outlook in information technology and information systems is positive as “employment of computer and information systems managers is projected to grow 15 percent from 2014 to 2024, faster than the average for all occupations” (Bureau of Labor Statistics). International students, specifically from India,

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understand this demand and will readily fill available spots. Competitor universities across the country have already begun programs and enrollments are strong.

Attracting international students to this area of the state will contribute to economic development in the state and region. An estimated 10% of the graduates will remain in the state to work after degree completion.

Satisfying the STEM area employment needs helps the region and state have a diversified economy that attracts companies needing those positions. Eventually this raises the tax base of a city or region that is hiring such positions.

The research supporting this information came from:

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/management/computer-and-information-systems-managers.htm>. In-country assessment of the demand for information management graduate programs in cities such as Hyderabad, Warangal, Guntur, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, and Chennai. This involves consular visits in both Hyderabad and Chennai as well as consultation with a dozen educational consultants.