



University of Innsbruck School of Management

Master in Information Systems





Studying at the Heart of the Alps

Situated at the foot of the impressive Karwendel mountain range and distinguished by its central geographical position at the heart of Europe, Innsbruck is an ideal location for education and business. Innsbruck is a young, dynamic city. In recent years, the skyline has been upgraded by a number of ambitious architectural projects designed by international star architects. The surrounding mountain scenery and the excellent sports and leisure facilities make the capital of Tyrol a very attractive place for students.

The figures speak for themselves: a total of 30,000 students from nearly 100 countries participate in the different educational programs; 6,500 of them are enrolled at the University of Innsbruck School of Management. In 1999 the Faculties of Social and Economic Sciences moved to a new site near Innsbruck's historic centre and the Imperial Gardens. The building encourages open communication between theory and practice and, due to its attractive location, facilitates an urban lifestyle.

Timetable

The programme usually starts at the beginning of October.

The Autumn semester runs until the first week in February.

The Spring semester usually starts at the beginning of March and ends on the first week of July.

Estimated costs

The tuition fee per semester is EURO 363,36 for students from EEA-member countries and EURO 726,72 for students from other countries.



Welcome to the School of Management

The University of Innsbruck School of Management was established on October 1, 2004 as one of the three successor faculties of the former Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences. It currently comprises five departments with a research and teaching staff of approximately 80, a Business Languages Unit, and approximately 20 administrative staff members.

The School of Management

- builds its success on the excellent knowledge and skills of all faculty members for the upcoming development processes and
- understands itself as a dynamic knowledge pool that gathers internationally available knowledge, expands it and makes it accessible in regional context.

Excellent research staff, the intensive co-operation with high-ranking, primarily European universities and the systematic integration of colleagues from all over the world as visiting staff ensure high-quality education. Students will find excellent study conditions: The modern technical equipment and appropriate use of e-learning are an expression of our orientation towards the future. Small student groups (max. 30 people) and innovative forms of teaching and learning promote the dialogue and the co-operation between teaching staff and students. There is hardly any room here for hierarchical differences; students are not seen as “consumers” but as “co-producers”. A strong link to business enterprises and not-for-profit organisations will improve graduates’ career chances.

Our educational philosophy

„If you don’t want to think, you’re out!“ This was the principle the famous artist Joseph Beuys laid down for the students in his master class. We, too, think of this principle as an appropriate motto for university education. In the first instance, it describes our responsibility as teachers to provide a course of study that requires real thinking rather than mere memorising. At the same time, it stresses the students’ responsibility to examine a subject closely, to develop arguments and to use them to arrive at their own position and solutions. If all involved take this principle seriously, university education becomes an intellectual challenge and only then does a real university emerge. We’d like to invite you to take part in building such a university.

Stephan Laske, Dean



Profile of the Programme

In a global economy, information technologies are core enablers of successful business models. A new generation of Internet companies has shown tremendous growth rates and has fundamentally changed the way businesses operate in many sectors. Information technologies have profoundly impacted businesses, organisations and society. This is reflected by terms such as e-business, e-government, agile organisations and knowledge society. Information systems (IS) have been characterised as the heart or the engine of business with a set of interrelated components that collect, retrieve, process, store and distribute information to support decision making and control in any organisation. Furthermore, information systems help managers and knowledge workers in efficient business processes, effective collaboration and improving existing or creating new business opportunities, products and services. In today's economy there is a growing interdependence between an organisation's ability to creatively apply and manage information systems and its agility, ability to implement corporate strategies and to achieve corporate goals.

The Master programme in Information Systems offers a blended mixture of management and computer science concepts, modelling skills and hands-on experiences in small groups applying leading-edge information technologies to real-world business opportunities. Typical challenges are development, customising and continuous improvement of enterprise systems, establishing information infrastructures for knowledge workers, horizontal, vertical, business process-oriented and inter-organisational integration or development of IT-oriented business models and strategies. Information systems are part of a series of value-adding activities for acquiring, transforming and distributing information so that managers can improve their decision making process, enhance organisational effectiveness and performance. A key asset of the Master programme in Information Systems is its joint offering by experienced faculty in Information Systems, Management and Computer Science integrating a business and a computer science perspective on information systems into the process of learning. Other key assets are work in small groups, international IS case studies, leading-edge labs for student projects and advanced technology-enhanced collaborative learning concepts.



Academic Degree

The degree “Master of Science” (MSc) is awarded to students having successfully completed the entire programme.

Qualification Profile

The Master programme in Information Systems qualifies students for leading positions applying IT in businesses and organisations, professional services companies and in the growing information and communication industry. The ultimate goal is to qualify students to take on IS leadership in their business environment. IS leadership means to give impulses, govern, manage and evaluate strategic activities in organisations which aim at the application of leading and innovative information and communication technologies in order to achieve competitive advantages. IS leadership also requires a level of interdisciplinary awareness of related fields such as management, personnel and organisation, law and computer science. This interdisciplinary understanding together with conceptual, modelling and communication skills allows graduates to bridge the gap between functional departments and IT departments or external IT service providers. Graduates are qualified to professionally analyse information and communication landscapes of organisations from an architectural, a process-, a service- and a value-oriented perspective. The Master programme provides an excellent basis for an IT-oriented, IT-enabled or consulting career as well as an academic career, especially a PhD programme.



Structure and Content

The Fig. 1 presents the structure of the programme according to the four semester course system. The first semester is dedicated to harmonise the potentially heterogeneous skill set of the student population. Students with a background in Management, Business or Economics are offered competencies in the IT core. Students with a background in Computer Science or Engineering are offered competencies in the management core. Students with an Information Systems background subscribe to the advanced modules in both, IT and Management core. The advanced modules combine concepts and methods for planning and controlling of processes of value creation (Management perspective), methods and tools for the design of information systems (Information Systems perspective) and IT skills for the realisation of these systems (Computer Science perspective).

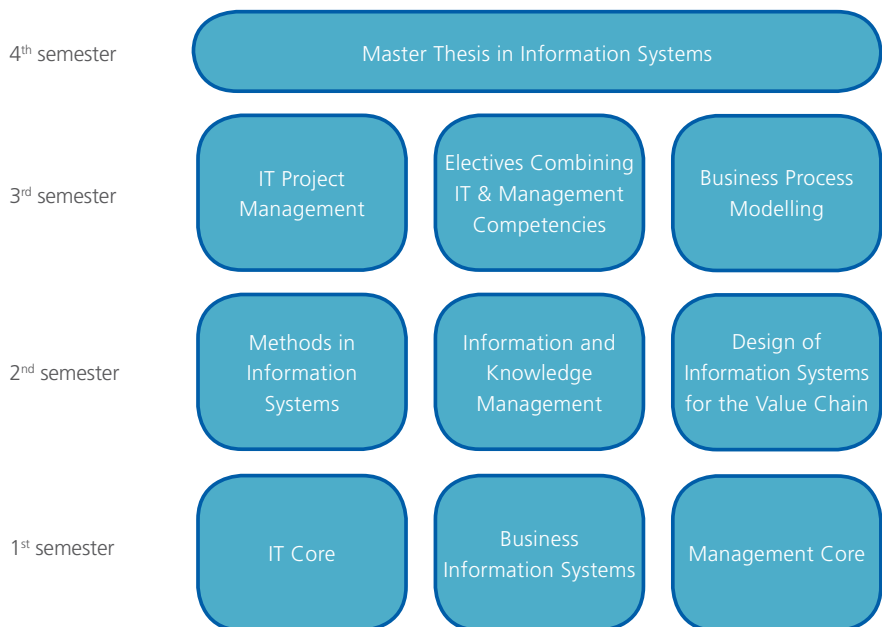


Fig. 1: Structure of the IS programme



Practical Information

Requirements

The basic requirement for admission to the Master programme is the completion of a Bachelor or Diploma programme in Business or Management (with a minimum of 180 ECTS credits). The programme is also open to applicants with a pertinent degree from an Austrian or foreign post-secondary educational institution in related fields of study. They are considered equivalent if they contain a minimum of 100 ECTS in social and/or economic sciences.

All applicants are expected to have an advanced level of English proficiency: Applicants from Non-EEA (European Economic Area) countries must submit the results of an English test. We accept TOEFL with a score of at least 100 (internet-based), 250 (computer-based) or 600 (paper-based), IELTS test with a score of at least 7.0 and The Cambridge Advanced Test taken no longer than three years ago.

English native speakers are exempt from this requirement.

Application Procedure

Applicants from EEA member countries

Applicants from EEA member countries fulfilling the basic requirement will get a place upon registration.

Registration forms and further details are available at:
<http://www.uibk.ac.at/studienabteilung/en/index.html>.

Applicants from non-EEA member countries

For international applicants from Non-EEA countries admission will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Application forms and further details are available at:
<http://www.uibk.ac.at/studienabteilung/en/index.html>.



Further Details

Master in Accounting, Auditing and Taxation:

http://www.uibk.ac.at/fakultaeten/betriebswirtschaft/studium/accounting_auditing_and_taxation.html

Contact: master-accounting@uibk.ac.at

Master in Banking and Finance:

http://www.uibk.ac.at/fakultaeten/betriebswirtschaft/studium/banking_and_finance.html

Contact: master-bankingandfinance@uibk.ac.at

Master in Information Systems:

<http://www.uibk.ac.at/wipl/masterprogramm.html>

Contact: master-is@uibk.ac.at

Master in Organisation Studies:

http://www.uibk.ac.at/fakultaeten-servicestelle/pruefungsreferate/studien/c972_2007w.html

Contact: master-orgstudies@uibk.ac.at

Master in Strategic Management:

<http://www.uibk.ac.at/smt/master/>

Contact: master-stratman@uibk.ac.at

Imprint:

Universität Innsbruck, Fakultät für Betriebswirtschaft

Karl-Rahner-Platz 3, A-6020 Innsbruck

Publisher: Universität Innsbruck

Brochure's conceptual design: Fakultät für Betriebswirtschaft, Heidi Lahartinger-Spiss

Design: Büro für Öffentlichkeitsarbeit und Kulturservice, Stephanie Breja

Image sources: Tirol Werbung, Universität Innsbruck, Franco Coccagna, Lahartinger

Printing: Agentur Taurus