

# **Management Information Systems**

Typically the amount of prior work experience plays an integral role in the level with which you are hired within an organization, especially in the big consulting firms. Whether you are a career starter, career switcher or career enhancer, Katz alumni research shows that those who concentrated in MIS or those who decided to pursue the dual degree MBA/MS-MIS are hired into the following functional areas:

[Business Analysis](#)

[IT Consulting](#)

[IS Management](#)

## **Co-Curricular activities**

Since your ultimate goal is to find a job upon graduation, you should pay particular attention to things that differentiate you from other MBA candidates on your resume. The below co-curricular activities can be utilized to not only differentiate you, but to also showcase your teamwork and leadership abilities.

## **Professional organizations**

Outside of Katz, there are some local professional associations that can provide excellent networking opportunities and also look good on your resume.

[The Association of Information Technology Professionals](#)

[Information Systems Security Association](#)

[Information Systems Audit and Control Association](#)

[International Institute of Business Analysis](#)

[Pittsburgh Technology Council](#)

## **External Certifications**

[PMP Certification](#)

[SAP Certification](#)

## **Clubs**

Both the Business Technology club and Consulting club are ideal for MIS concentrations.

## **Additional Professional Resources**

[MBACASE](#) – David Ohrvall, former consultant and CASE interview expert has a book entitled, *“Crack the Case: How to Conquer Your Case Interviews, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition”* that currently costs \$38, but the website also contains some useful case information.

[Case in Point](#) – Marc Cosentino, President, has over 23 years of case interview prep experience. His book is entitled, *“Case in Point: Complete Case Interviewing Preparation”* at is currently is \$25 plus shipping and handling.

[SAP student website](#)

[SAP student career resource center](#)

Consulting interviews usually have a case interview component. Because of this, it is recommended that you practice and master your case interviewing skills. Here are some of the most helpful resources:

[Vault Guides on Case Interviewing and Case Interviewing Practice](#) – FREE through Katz login.

## Business Analysis

Within consulting firms, business analysts work with experienced consultants to develop models, perform complex analyses, and work on research assignments at both the office and client sites. Analysts often travel while on assignments, undertaking a broad range of activities, while gaining exposure to the business world. They may also participate in marketing activities and the preparation of proposals for new engagement opportunities. With experience the natural progression includes titles such as sr. business analyst, associate and senior associate. Outside of consulting, corporate titles include systems analyst, IT analyst, business/systems and analyst/developer. Business analysts need to be able to demonstrate excellent competencies in planning and prioritization, project management, analytical problem solving and quantitative analysis, budgeting, forecasting, and trend analysis.

### Suggested courses

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Term likely to be offered</b>
BMIS 2034-Information Systems Planning	3.0	Fall
BMIS 2551-Project Management Concepts and Processes	3.0	Spring
BMIS 2074-Strategic Information Technology in Global Supply Chains	1.5	Spring
BMIS 2537-Business Systems Platforms	3.0	Spring
BMIS 2588-Database Management	3.0	Fall
BMIS 2678-E-Commerce	3.0	Fall
BMIS 2679-Technology Innovation, Adoption, and Diffusion	3.0	Spring
BMIS 2689-Technology Enabled Business Transformation	3.0	Spring
BIND 2400-Consulting Field Project	3.0	Fall/Spring

## Information Technology (IT) Consulting

IT consultants help clients find real and lasting solutions to problems by providing new information and advice. Through in-depth thought, brainstorming, and analysis, they help organizations become better by challenging them and persuading them to adopt new ideas. Some of the more notable IT consulting firms include Deloitte, Accenture, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), Ernst & Young (E&Y), IBM, and KPMG. Other job titles include, but are not limited to, IT developer, IT project consultant, consultant, and with experience, senior consultant. IT consultants need to be able to demonstrate excellent competencies in planning and prioritization skills, project management, business/technical savvy, analytical problem solving and critical thinking and possess strong verbal and written communication skills. Also, keep in mind that IT consultants tend to work long hours and travel extensively.

### Suggested courses

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Term likely to be offered</b>
BIND 2400-Consulting Field Project	3.0	Fall/Spring
BMIS 2034-Information Systems Planning	3.0	Fall
BMIS 2551-Project Management Concepts and Processes	3.0	Spring
BMIS 2074-Strategic Information Technology in Global Supply Chains	1.5	Spring
BMIS 2537-Business Systems Platforms	3.0	Spring
BMIS 2588-Database Management	3.0	Fall

## Information Systems (IS) Management

Computer and information systems managers play a vital role in the technological direction of their organizations because they do everything from constructing the business plan to overseeing network and internet operations. IS professionals not only apply their broad knowledge of information technologies and business issues, but speak to their vision of where technology can take organizations. Some common job titles include project manager, senior project manager, program manager, IS manager, senior IS manager, IT manager and senior IT manager. Natural career progressions usually lead to senior management and chief information officer (CIO) and chief technology officer (CTO) level positions. IS managers need to demonstrate excellent core competencies in leadership, planning and prioritization skills, project management, business/technical savvy, finance, human resources and possess strong verbal and written communication skills. IS Managers do not tend to travel as much as IT Consultants, but they do tend to work longer hours and can sometimes be on call 24/7. As you take a closer look at what you'd like to do within MIS, it is recommended that you not only look at sample job descriptions for some of the above job titles, but one of the most recognized resources available for career exploration and industry perspectives are the Vault guides. Use the link below to enter the Vault site for free access to both the Consulting and Technology Careers guides.

### Suggested courses

Courses	Credits	Term likely to be offered
BMIS 2034-Information Systems Planning	3.0	Fall
BMIS 2551-Project Management Concepts and Processes	3.0	Spring
BMIS 2074-Strategic Information Technology in Global Supply Chains	1.5	Spring
BMIS 2679-Technology Innovation, Adoption, and Diffusion	3.0	Spring
BSEO 2511-Management of Strategic Alliances 1	1.5	Spring
BMKT 2531-Marketing Research	3.0	Spring
BQOM 2549-Strategic Cost Analysis	1.5	Spring
BOAH 2522-Compensation	1.5	Spring
BOAH 2537-Conflict Resolution in the Workplace	1.5	variable
BQOM 2546-Project Management Fundamentals and Analytics	1.5	Spring
BSEO 2315-Business Law	3.0	Spring
BOAH 2521-Staffing Organizations	1.5	Spring
BOAH 2411-Human Resources for Competitive Advantage	1.5	Spring
BIND 2400-Consulting Field Project	3.0	Fall/Spring