

Accounting Information Systems

If you enjoy studying accounting and technology, the SJSU College of Business Department of Accounting and Finance offers a concentration for you – Accounting Information Systems (AIS). SJSU is one of the few schools nationally to prepare students to bridge the gap between two critical business operations: accounting and management information systems. It is unique among the handful that do offer this concentration to design it exclusively of courses taught within the Department of Accounting and Finance. There is no awkward split between the Accounting and MIS Departments, as with other AIS programs. Thus students can stay focused on important accounting and internal control issues (e.g. Sarbanes Oxley, etc.), while advancing within a curriculum strongly infused with the information technology issues.

AIS students take courses in database design, networking and data communications, systems analysis and design, and IT audit, all with an accounting emphasis. In testimony to its rigor, the curriculum qualifies our students to take the CISA (Certified Information Systems Auditor) exam, a globally accepted standard of achievement among information systems (IS) audit, control and security professionals. It also builds an awareness of moral and ethical considerations, and provides incentives to grow and keep pace with the field's ever-changing issues, conditions, forces and ideas.

AIS graduates enter one of the fastest growing, most dynamic areas in accounting. A recent survey of SJSU graduates who began their careers at Big 4 accounting firms shows that their starting salaries were higher (\$58K) than their counterparts in financial audit (\$52K) or tax accounting (\$54K). SJSU graduates with a CISA certification can expect even higher salaries, in the mid-\$60Ks.

AIS graduates are attractive to large and small public accounting firms and corporations. They serve as liaisons between accounting/financial systems users and the information systems technical staff, or as designers and deployers of IT to improve an organization's accounting systems. Career paths include IT or internal audit, forensic accounting, risk management, or litigation services.

Potential career paths:

- Accounting at a public accounting firm specializing in:
 - Audit Control Systems
- Consulting/Advisory
- Public corporations – large, medium or small
- Government
- Not-for-profit firms

The opportunities in the field of accounting information systems are boundless. If you are considering this versatile major, come talk to us.

