Students looking for an exciting career in information systems technology need to look no further than the Information Systems department at the Hankamer School of Business.

With a challenging and cutting edge curriculum maintained by world-class faculty and an advisory board comprised of information systems executives, Baylor business students can expect to learn the latest technical skills, as well as fundamental project management, communication, programming and quantitative skills needed to join the emerging technology workforce.

Information Systems gives students hands-on experience with systems that help organizations and people communicate, systems that automate business processes and collect information, and systems that enhance organizational decision making.

State-of-the-art courses include work in object oriented programming, modern programming languages, advanced systems development methodologies, telecommunications and the Internet, electronic business concepts and database technologies.

The Information Systems Department at Baylor encompasses information systems, quantitative business analysis and business communication. Degrees are offered at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Undergraduate IS majors have two tracks to choose from: Management Information Systems and Accounting Information Systems.

The Management Information Systems track builds technical skills with a theoretical, hands-on, and project-based curriculum. Students pursuing the MIS track master the latest technologies and understand system development basics. Students will be assets in the current business environment and will have skills that will enable them to master the latest technical trends.

Accounting Information Systems track graduates will be able to help bridge the gap existing in organizations between the IT function and the accounting function. Technology provides the infrastructure to collect, analyze, compile, and disseminate accounting information. The emergence of new technologies, real-time data, and the creation of international electronic standards for transmitting financial information electronically (i.e. XBRL) requires a new type of professional that can integrate accounting and information systems functions. With Sarbanes-Oxley’s strict reporting requirements this professional skill mix is in demand and growing. It will experience increased growth as federal legislation such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act imposes strict requirements on accounting and financial data.
Hankamer’s Casey Computer Center was created in 1962 through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Casey, who funded the purchase of one of the first (if not the first) computers on the Baylor campus — an IBM 1620, a central processor with 30k of memory — and an IBM 407 accounting machine.

In those days of ‘the keypunch and mag cards,’ the fledging center resided in the basement of the Hankamer Building. In 1974, the IBM 1620 was replaced by the IBM System 3, which allowed students to program not in FORTRAN, but also in COBOL.

Since that time the center has provided excellent service and state-of-the-art equipment for students, faculty and staff of the business school. The center currently includes two microcomputer labs equipped with desktop PCs: the Advanced Technology Lab and the Business Writing Lab.

The Advanced Technology Lab includes 100 computers, one third of which are replaced every summer to ensure students have access to the computing resources they need. Additionally, two multimedia stations with scanners, two VCRs, video capture capability and special software are available for project work. Every computer has full Internet access along with the capability to print to either of two high speed monochrome laser printers and a color laser printer. The Business Writing Lab houses 28 computers.

To enhance the classroom experience for both students and faculty, the center has equipped every classroom in the School of Business with multimedia computers and projection equipment. By using similar computers in each classroom, the center has attempted to eliminate potential obstacles for students developing individual and group presentations in the lab and then displaying them in the classroom.

A special, state-of-the-art, multimedia classroom also includes two built-in projection systems (one capable of producing a 12-foot diagonal picture), color video overhead projection system, Super VHS video cassette recorder, five-disc compact disc player, laser disc player and audio cassette player. This hardware is under the control and coordination of a Crestron unit. The room is also wired to receive video transmissions from the satellite dish on the roof of the Academic Center, local cable TV services, and the Baylor University satellite dish array. All areas of the Business School provide access to AirBear, the University wireless network which allows students to use laptops and access the Internet, network data, collaborative software, etc., during class sessions.

While the center is primarily responsible for meeting the computer needs of the students, it also provides research facilities for the faculty and staff. Each faculty/staff member has a PC or Macintosh computer connected to the University network to access Internet, email, the library and local collaborative resources. In addition, the center staffs a Help Desk and a Graphics/Desktop Publishing workstation that can produce video presentations, color transparencies, electronic slide shows, desktop publishing and World Wide Web page creation for newsletters, classroom use, and research papers.

The center is staffed by dedicated IT professionals, each with a different area of expertise, under the leadership of Anthony Lapes, Director.