The Department of Accounting and Information Systems in the Pamplin College of Business strives for excellence in fulfilling the three missions of a comprehensive land grant university through improving the accounting and information systems professions by conducting quality research and disseminating the results, providing a world class accounting and information systems education to our students, and delivering outreach services to accounting and information systems professionals and educators.

The ACIS program has earned a reputation for excellence among graduates and employers. Our faculty includes nationally known teachers and researchers. ACIS graduates perform well in their profession, many advancing to top levels of their organizations.

**Programs**

**Tax Accounting: Tax Impact on Managerial Decisions**

This course provides the tools for evaluating the tax impact on investment, finance and operational decisions while also considering the non-tax factors affecting those decisions. Emphasis is on a global approach to tax planning, incorporating tax issues into the investment, finance, and operational decisions of a firm or an individual. The class will be conducted using a variety of teaching methods that incorporate cooperative learning techniques as well as interactive lecture.

Workshop participants complete cases that require application of tax planning tools as well as explanation and development of planning techniques.

**Auditing practices**

The auditing profession has gained in prominence in recent years. Many of the events surrounding the corporate scandals involving companies such as Enron and WorldCom resulted in a flurry of legislative and regulatory activity that continues to result in new standards that affect auditing practice. This course provides an overview of new auditing standards and various activities at the Auditing Standards Board, Securities and Exchange Commission and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board that may impact practice.

**Text and Data Mining**

Text and data mining is an emerging set of analytical techniques that can be used to uncover novel knowledge from huge amounts of textual as well as database records such as business memos, emails, intranet, and internet as well as data warehousing related to business transactions and sales. This program can assist executives to gain business insights from their own enterprise data as well as perform data analytics such as forecasting, prediction and prevention.

**Information and Data Security**

Information security refers to the measures taken to secure information in any form. While the definition may be simple, the measures required to achieve information security and the issues surrounding security have become quite complex. The information age has created a whole new venue in which to commit fraud, release malicious viruses, and exploit or steal intellectual property. This program is designed to teach IT managers and security professionals how to identify computer threats and then demonstrates the steps that can be taken to
detect and prevent them. Using these tools, participants will learn how to reduce risks to their organizations by keeping them from becoming victims of cyber crime through education and awareness.

**Continuous Auditing**

Continuous auditing is an on-going review and analysis of business information on a real time basis. Continuous auditing requires specialized skills of audit personnel to monitor information electronically and incorporate the use of intelligent agents, computer modeling and other software tools. Continuous auditing gives end users of information more timely assurance that the information is correct and may eventually lead to continuous reporting where financial information is updated and published as events occur. This course is intended for internal audit departments, department heads, and managers.

**Business Information Visualization**

With the flood of data produced by today’s information systems, business decision-makers face the daunting task of sorting through the data created by these systems. Something must be done to allow business decision-makers to extract information from the data. By suitably representing the data, business information visualization technologies can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the decision-maker, and thus, allow the business decision-maker to separate the “wheat from the chaff.” The objectives of this course are to introduce business information visualization technology and to describe its potential for use in business problem solving tasks. To achieve this goal, we define business information visualization, identify its purpose, and describe reasons this technology may be appropriate for business problem solving, issues related to visualization design, and applications of business information visualization technology.

**Fraud Detection**

The costs associated with fraud are staggering. Companies not only bear monetary losses associated with fraud, but also endure losses in reputation and employee morale which can be even more damaging. This course covers factors that lead to fraud, the behavioral characteristics of fraudsters, and establishing an ethical business environment and other techniques to combat fraud. The course will also include studies of well-known frauds and how those frauds may have been prevented or detected.

**Corporate Governance**

This course gives an overview of the regulatory requirements that govern the flow of information within a corporation and to the market, including the roles of employees, management and the board of directors; discusses the basic requirements and consequences of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (SOx); discusses the process employed by major corporations to comply with SOx requirements. Corporate governance is a broad term used in Finance as well as Accounting. This course covers the regulatory side.

**Other Possible Workshop Topics**

Managerial Accounting: developing and using accounting information to help managers make decisions.