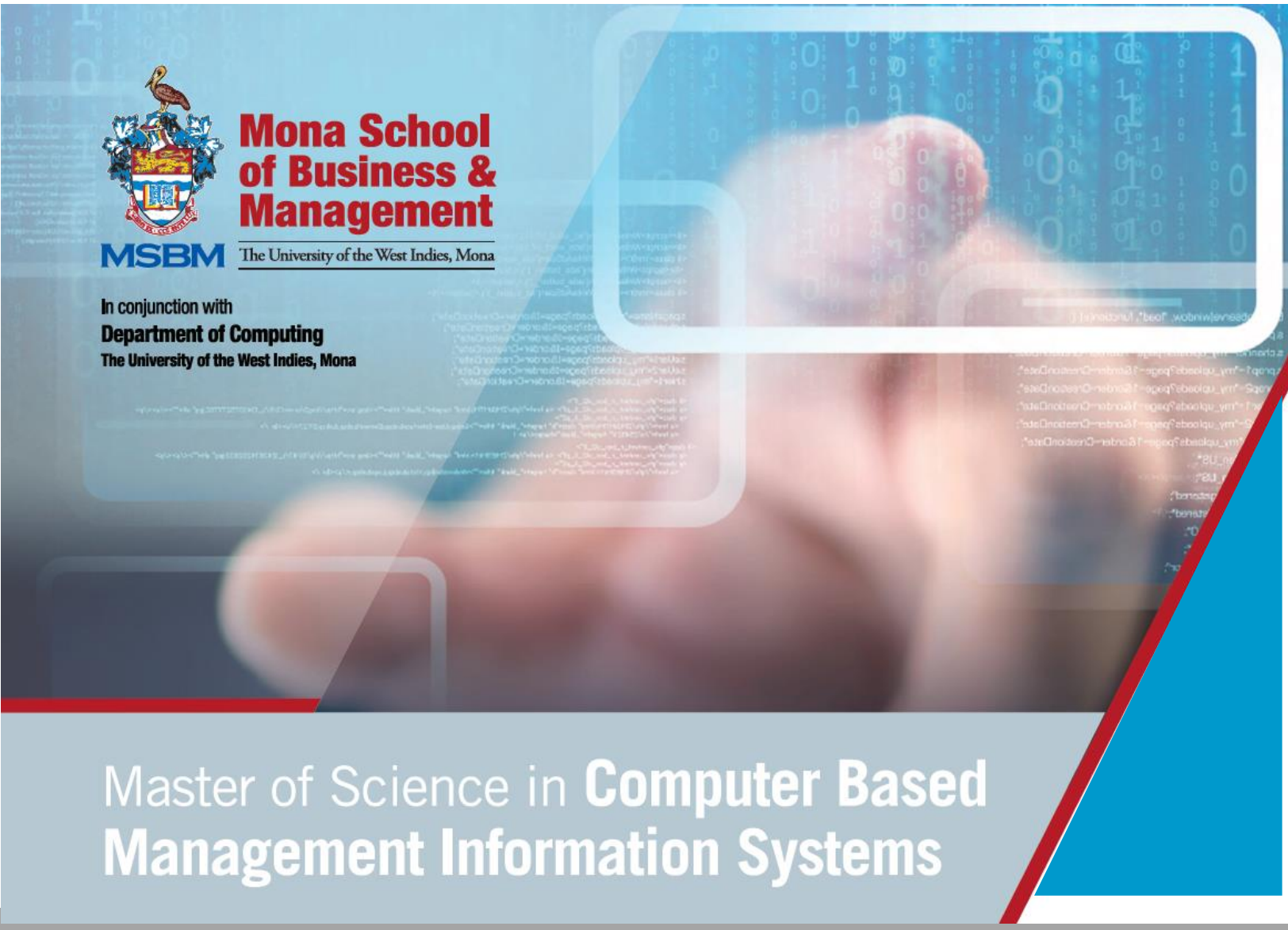

Mona School of Business & Management

MSBM The University of the West Indies, Mona

In conjunction with
Department of Computing
The University of the West Indies, Mona

Master of Science in **Computer Based Management Information Systems**

Student Handbook

2024 - 2025

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Introduction

Mona School of Business and Management (MSBM) is committed to producing masters IT and Management graduates with well-developed analytical and technical capabilities, intellectually adaptive thought processes and an orientation toward lifelong learning, enabling them to become effective practitioners and researchers.

The Master of Science in Computer Based Management Information Systems (CBMIS) is offered jointly with the Department of Computing and was developed in response to the rapidly growing demand for a new type of graduate student with an in-depth knowledge in management information systems and computer science. Since its inception in 1993, the CBMIS programme has sought to train and educate students to have a positive impact in various organizations, both regionally and globally. The purpose of the programme continues to be one of meeting the demand for the management of information.

Admission Requirements

The requirement for admission to the MSc Computer Based Management Information Systems (CBMIS) is a Lower Second Class Honours undergraduate degree, i.e., GPA of 2.5 or above, in Information Systems/Computer Science, Management Studies or other related disciplines from a university or college acceptable to the Board for Graduate Studies & Research, The University of the West Indies.

Applicants with a BSc degree with a GPA lower than 2.5 will be considered under the following conditions:

- Have professional experience in a Computer Science, Information Systems/Information Technology or other related disciplines with a minimum of 2 years work experience; and
- Pass a departmental interview conducted by the School's Programme Admissions Committee.

Mature matriculation: Applicants who do not possess a first degree can matriculate under the mature matriculation requirements of The UWI. However, these persons will be limited to no more than 10% of the cohort (or 2 students from a cohort of 20). However, these applicants must possess a minimum of 10 years work experience in the Computer Science, Information Systems/Information Technology, or other related disciplines. The mature entry requirements of The UWI require applicants to submit official documentation certifying the successful completion of a course of study in the discipline for which they are seeking admission. Each recommendation will be preceded by an interview by a panel from the CBMIS programme.

Application Procedure

All applicants are encouraged to apply online early: https://sas.mona.uwi.edu/banndata1-srv_mona/uwm_adm.p_index

Interviews

As part of the selection process, MSBM reserves the right to interview applicants for further exploration of their qualifications and experience. You may therefore be called for an interview, possibly at short notice, in order to expedite the process.

Acknowledgement

Once your online application has been processed and you are successful, you will receive an offer online, via your e-mail address from the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.

Confirmation of Acceptance

Applicants who have been offered a place in the programme must confirm their acceptance online by the date specified in the offer. **NB:** If you are offered a place and you are unable to take up the offer, you will be required to defer or reject the offer online.

Registration

Before the start of the academic year students are required to register for Semester 1 and Semester 2 for that academic year. Students are required to register for Semester 3 in the Summer.

Identification Card

Once you have registered for your classes, you will be able to obtain your ID card. Your Programme Coordinator will provide the necessary instructions.

The cost for identification card renewal is J$1,000. The renewal fee is also applicable to students who change their enrollment status. The cost for identification card replacement is J$1,150.

Student Requirements

- Students should have an active registration status until the completion of their degree. **Students who are not doing courses in a particular semester must request leave of absence** from the Office of Graduate Studies and Research for the inactive period.
- Students who are doing a second sitting of a graduate course must inform the Coordinator in writing indicating their name, identification number, the course code, the name of the course, and the semester in which the course is being done.

Attendance Policy

It is important for students to attend lectures regularly on a timely basis and to work steadily throughout the semester to benefit fully from the programme.

Any student who, having registered for a course and examination, fails to take the examination shall be deemed to have failed the examination. In cases of illness the candidate shall present to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research, a medical certificate, as proof of illness, signed by the University Health Officer or by any other Medical Practitioner approved for this purpose by the University. The student shall send the medical certificate within (7) seven days from the date of that part of the examination in which the performance of the student is affected.

Students who are encountering difficulties in completing their programme of study should apply for leave of absence. Requests for leave of absence should be sent to the Assistant Registrar, Graduate Studies and Research, indicating the reason for the request. Approval of a request for leave of absence is not automatic.

List of Courses

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
COMP6101	Introduction to Programming, Database & Networking	3
COMP5110	Introduction to Software Engineering	3
COMP5740	Business Intelligence	3
MGMT6017	Organizational Theory & Behaviour	3
MGMT6021	Production & Operations Management	3
MGMT6019	Finance	3
MGMT6031	Final Project	6
MISY6110	Information Systems in Organizations	3
MISY6113	Decision Support Systems	3
MISY6115	IT Economics	3
MISY6114	E-commerce	3
MISY6116	IT Governance & Policies	3
MISY6117	IT Project Management	3
MISY6118	IT Security	3
MISY6119	Communications & Special and Emerging Topics in MIS	3
SBCO6190	New Ventures & Entrepreneurship	3

Sequence of Courses

Year 1

Course Code	Course Title
COMP6100	Introduction to Programming, Databases and Networking
MGMT6017	Organizational Theory and Behaviour
MISY6110	Information Systems in Organizations
COMP5110	Introduction to Software Engineering
MGMT6019	Finance
MGMT6021	Production and Operations Management
SBCO6190	New Ventures and Entrepreneurship
MISY6114	E-Commerce
MISY6118	IT Security

Year 2

Course Code	Course Title
MISY6113	Decision Support Systems
MISY6115	IT Economics
MISY6117	IT Project Management
COMP5740	Business Intelligence
MGMT6031	Final Project
MISY6116	IT Governance and Policies
MISY6119	Communication and Special and Emerging Topics in MIS

Course Descriptions

MANAGEMENT COURSES

MISY6110: Information Systems in Organizations

This course establishes a foundation for understanding and analysing information in organizations, and its role in creating strategic advantage in companies. It examines the factors which underlie the evolution of Information Technology with the rapid convergence of voice, text, graphics and video technologies with traditional technologies for data processing. The goal is to introduce students to some of the basic concepts and current developments in IT and to examine successful applications of IT to business problems in order to understand how to improve their awareness of the managerial issues raised by IT and its use in inspiring organizational effectiveness.

MGMT6017: Organizational Theory and Behaviour

This course introduces the basic concepts in social psychology relevant to the study and understanding of individual and group behaviour in an organizational setting. It shows the information system manager and analyst how interpersonal and structural variables influence job and task performance, individual and group productivity and their impact on the achievement of consistent quality in organizational outputs.

MGMT6019: Finance

This course provides managers with the basic tools for efficiently using the financial resources of an organization and understanding the objectives of financial management. It focuses on the factors which govern the financial structure, cost of capital, market valuation, sourcing of short and long term funds and dividend, working capital policies of the firm and methods of capital budgeting. The course will also examine the use of financial databases.

MGMT6021: Production and Operations Management

This course introduces managerial concepts and techniques that can be used to achieve flexibility, reliability, efficiency and total quality in operations. Specific attention is paid to the role of forecasting, systems design production planning and scheduling and materials management. The use of information systems in planning, design and control of manufacturing and service organizations is emphasized.

MISY6116: Governance and Policies

The course will enable students to gain an understanding of IT Governance, policy frameworks and Corporate Governance and how to utilize these strategies to meet key objectives, manage risks, deliver value and measure performance in an organization. Students will also be introduced to the organizational interventions required to cultivate and sustain an effective, business-specific IT governance model which is an essential tool for deriving benefits and meeting business objectives.

MISY6117: IT Project Management

The course introduces students to the defining characteristics of IT projects, a variety of project management techniques, the challenges involved in executing IT projects, how to recognize warning signs associated with failing projects and how best to avoid them. The course will also cover management issues associated with different alternatives for sourcing information systems and acquiring infrastructure components.

COMPUTER COURSES

COMP6101: Introduction to Programming, Databases and Networking

This course introduces students to networking concepts, creating databases and writing programs. Specifically, the course focuses on students writing web-based programs, integrating them with databases and introducing basic concepts of networking.

COMP5110: Software Engineering

This course examines some of the different approaches to software construction including object-oriented approaches, formal specification techniques, and prototyping. The various stages in the life cycle of a piece of software, and the tools available for supporting the activities taking place in the different stages of the life cycle, as projects, will be examined.

MISY6113: Decision Support Systems

The course is divided into two sections. The first section will discuss organizational decision-making within a problem-solving framework and examine the role of computer-based models in supporting the various stages of the decision-making process. It presents an organizing framework for classifying various types of organizational problems. Then Simon's model is used to illustrate a normative approach to the problem-solving/decision-making process. The second section of the course discusses knowledge-based decision support systems, with a particular emphasis on Expert Systems. We introduce students to Expert Systems as they offer an alternative solution to solving problems for which traditional solutions do not exist. The different stages involved in the development of expert systems and their relevance to real world applications will be discussed

MISY6114: E-Commerce

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a solid understanding of E-Commerce principles, strategy and business application in order to enable them to identify opportunities and articulate strategies for employing E-Commerce initiatives within their own organizations.

MISY6115: IT Economics

The primary aim of the course is to introduce students to the importance of financial considerations in making decisions related to software; both in firms that develop software and in firms that use software to help them better achieve their strategic objectives. It will provide students with an introduction to the fields of software economics and IT business value analysis, and expose them to some of the tools that they can use to help firms make financially more responsible software related decisions.

MISY6118: IT Security

IT security is a comprehensive study of the principles and practices of computer system security, to include operating system security, network security, software security and web security. However, the majority of IT security mitigation strategies have predominantly relied on technological solutions, neglecting the threats emanating from the human element. This course then, is intended to improve the managerial approaches for securing information assets by emphasizing a socio-technical approach.

COMP5740: Business Intelligence

The primary goal of Data Mining and Data Warehousing are to integrate heterogeneous data stores into one large repository of data which can then be mined to discover patterns and trends which would otherwise go undetected. Because of this emphasis will be placed on the steps involved in building a Data Warehouse and the benefits they can provide to an organization. Various Data Mining techniques will be studied, in terms of the algorithms used and the benefits they can provide to an organization.

MGMT6031: Final Project

In lieu of a thesis, each participant in the programme will be required to undertake a project which will entail defining and developing a software system which has real potential for solving a practical problem of significance to managers. The system will require students to draw on their capacity to analyze business problems as well as on their ability to implement the software development tools, techniques and concepts learned throughout the programme

Course Work Assignments

Course work assignments should be handed in on the due dates and within the time specified by the lecturer. Each student submitting an individual assignment will receive a receipt. For group assignments one receipt will be issued to the group. Course work assignments once receipted will not be released to students.

The student identification number must be used to identify the student(s), submitting the course work assignment. Names must not be placed on course work assignments or on examination scripts.

After grading, course work assignments will not be returned to students. Graded course work can be viewed briefly. Students will not be allowed to take away the graded course work. The facility for viewing graded course work will be available immediately after the course work marks have been placed on MSBM's ELS (Executive Learning Space). Course work marks will not be given out over the telephone or to third parties.

Examinations

All examinations for MSBM graduate programmes are regulated by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research and the UWI examinations Section.

Final examination marks will not be given out to students who visit the office, to students who telephone or to third parties. If you wish to view your final mark for a course you must do so online (unofficial transcript). Final examination marks will be disseminated by the Examinations Section of the UWI Mona and not by MSBM

GPA for Course Work/Exam

A student who fails an element of a course that counts towards the final grade (either course work or final examination) will be deemed to have that course. They will be assigned the grade FC or FE (Fail Course work, Fail Exam) if they obtain an overall mark of 50% or higher. In order to pass a course you must pass both the course work and the final examination. You must re-sit the section of the course (course work or final examination) you failed. If you fail both sections you must re-sit the entire course (course work and final examination).

Marking Scheme

The marking scheme for Higher Degrees is as follows:

GRADE	MARK%
A+	**90-100**
A	**80-89**
A-	**75-79**
B+	**70-74**
B	**65-69**
B-	**60-64**
C+	**55-59**
C	**50-54**
F1	**45-49**
F2	**40-44**
FC	**0-39**
FC/FE	**≥50**

Where graduate students write undergraduate examinations for postgraduate credit those examinations shall be graded in accordance with the above scheme.
Learn more: https://www.uwi.edu/postgradgpa/how-it-works

The Award of Distinction and of High Commendation

The University's requirements of a minimum GPA for Postgraduate taught programmes is 2.0. Students who matriculate to the University in August 2021 and after must earn this minimum grade point average in their taught programmes. It does not apply to continuing postgraduate students. Note that individual department, college, school or programme requirements may exceed this minimum. All other existing requirements, both faculty and university, that are based on any calculated GPA will apply accordingly.

GPA	CATEGORY
≥3.70	DISTINCTION
3.30 – 3.69	MERIT
2.00 – 3.29	PASS
<2.0	FAIL

1. Based on overall programme GPA
2. Research project will be considered another course for the calculation of programme GPA
3. Failure / repeating of any course(s) will NOT disqualify from 'distinction' if overall GPA ≥ 3.70
4. Professional doctorates: Distinction = ≥ 3.70 in Courses + High Commendation in Research

Plagiarism

The unauthorized and/ or unacknowledged use of another person's intellectual efforts, ideas and creations under one's own name is regarded as a form of cheating. If a student is found guilty of plagiarism, the student will be awarded a fail grade in the course concerned and may also be subject to other disciplinary actions. Please note that all assessments that include essays will be submitted through TURNITIN by the lecturer.

Graduate Course Work Accountability Statement

All students registered for postgraduate courses in the Faculty of Social Sciences, are required to attach a signed course work accountability statement to the front of any document submitted as a component of course work save that when course work consists of an invigilated examination no accountability statement is required and where the submission is entirely in electronic form, the student shall make an equivalent declaration electronically.

Learn More:
https://www.mona.uwi.edu/postgrad/sites/default/files/postgrad/uploads/Graduate%20Coursework%20Accountability%20Statement.pdf

Tuition

Click here for Graduate Tuition Guidelines for fees and schedule of payments:

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