

UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY

PROPOSAL FOR PROGRAM CHANGE  
B.S IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SUBMITTED BY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY  
FALL SEMESTER 2011

WASHINGTON, DC

## **Type of Review Requested**

This is a proposal for a program review for the purpose of programmatic changes to the B.S. in Information Technology Program.

## **Description of Proposed Program Change B.S. in Information Technology**

The Department of Computer Science and Information Technology (CSIT) offers two Bachelor of Science degree programs. This document presents a proposed program changes to the Information Technology (BSIT) program. The proposed changes are as follows:

1. Deletion of the following courses from program requirements for the major:

- Database Fundamentals
- Data Structures
- Software Engineering
- Professional Ethics

2. Addition of the following courses to program requirements for the major:

- The Law and the Computer
- Unix and System Programming
- System and Network Administration\*
- Database Administration\*
- Human Computer Interaction\*
- Information Security\*
- Digital Forensics\*
- Database Systems Design
- A second Senior Project course

\* Note: courses designated with an asterisk are newly developed core courses. Please see syllabi for these courses in the Appendix.

3. Reduction of Elective Requirements from 36 credits to 27 credits.

## **Rationale/Standards of Relevant Accrediting Agencies**

- The added courses are required in order for the BSIT program to acquire ABET accreditation. ABET is the professional accrediting agency for the program. ABET requires more specific knowledge in administration, networking, Unix, and human-computer interaction. In addition, NSA (National Security Agency) requires program courses in computer law, information security, and data forensics in order to attain a national designation of Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education (CAEIAE). If our BSIT program meets their courseware standards, we would be eligible to apply for this designation.

- The current trend in technology education is to require six (6) credits in a capstone experience emphasizing teamwork. The additional Senior Project course will align with that trend.
- The deleted courses are not required for the program accreditation by ABET.
- Students will no longer need to take the course in Professional Ethics because they will be taking Foundation Ethics as part of their General Education Requirements.

### **Number of Students Immediately Affected**

This proposal would have no effect on current students, but any future students majoring in Information Technology would benefit from the changes.

### **Probable Impact on Unit**

The Computer Science and Information Technology Department expects significant improvements in enrollment, retention, and graduation rates. There is no need for additional faculty for these specific changes. Moreover, these changes can be implemented without additional resources.

### **Faculty and Staff Affected**

No changes in the faculty and staff will be needed to implement the proposed change.

### **Proposed Date of Implementation**

The program changes would go into effect in Spring of 2012.