Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity

The Graduate Certificate in Information Security and Assurance (ISA) is a 12-credit graduate-level certificate designed to provide advanced knowledge of information security concepts, governance, fundamental and emerging technologies in network security and computer systems security, as well as proficiency in security policies, procedures, risk management and audit. The purpose of this graduate certificate is to offer a practitioner-oriented credential in the information security area to students who are seeking an opportunity for more focused study.

The requirements for students entering the graduate certificate program include:

- BS degree in a computing or related discipline with a GPA of 3.0 or better or substantial experience in information technology;
- Two or more years of practical experience in IT; and
- Three letters of reference.

Applicants must complete an application to Graduate Studies for admission into the certificate program and submit an application fee along with the following materials:

- Copy of Official Transcripts
- Statement of Purpose
- Resume
- Three Letters of Recommendation

*Unless the applicants native language is English or the applicant has received a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited U.S. institution of higher education, he or she must meet the department’s standard for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

To complete the program and obtain the certificate degree, the following three courses must be completed:

IT 710: Information Security and Assurance (3 credits)
IT 711: Security Management and Audit (3 credits)
IT 712: Network Security and its Application (3 credits)

And one of the following two courses:

IT 780: Communication Networks (3 credits)
IT 811: IT Project Management (3 credits)

The completion requirements of the graduate certificate in Cybersecurity include: (a) students must have a GPA of 3.0 or better on the required courses; (b) the minimum grade for any course to be applied toward the certificate is a grade of C; and (c) no credits may be transferred from another institution for this certificate.

Note: The completion of the graduate certificate program does not lead to automatic admission to the MSIT program, particularly if the student lacks the BS degree in computing or related discipline. However, for students who are able to gain admission to the MSIT program within three years of earning the certificate, all certificate course work completed with a grade B or higher will be recognized through a combination of the following methods.

For students admitted to the MSIT program before completion of the certificate, all certificate course work may also be applied to the degree-granting program. For students admitted to the MSIT program after completing the certificate, departments will use a combination of transfer credit and degree requirement waivers to recognize the 12 hours earned through the certificate program. At the discretion of the degree-granting program and the Graduate Division, up to nine (9) credit hours may be transferred to the degree program. For the purposes of the MSIT program, completion of the graduate certificate in Cybersecurity within three years, with a grade of B or better, shall also be recognized as exceptional preparation which warrants the waiver of course work completed during the certificate program and not transferred. Please see the M.A. & M.S. Degrees and Graduate Credit policies for more information.