Fall Events

There’s a lot going on in terms of employer recruitment this fall. And not only that, but our application cycle also runs this semester.

APPLICATION DATES

September 1; IS major and minor application opens

October 1; IS major and minor application closes

EVENTS and RECRUITMENT

September 5; Deloitte, 5:30—7 in Hanes 242

September 10; Cisco, 5:30—7 on the 4th floor of Hanes

September 11; GE, 4—5 in the Student Union 2420

September 12; Career Services Internship Expo

September 23; GE Recruitment Event in Hanes

September 24; Deloitte Recruitment Event in Hanes

September 25; Credit Suisse, 5:30 in Hanes

September 25; ASIS&T Casual Networking Night, 5:30—7:30 on the 4th floor of Hanes

September 30; ISSUE meeting with Credit Suisse, 5—6

INFORMATION SESSION

September 18; 5—6 in Manning 208 (with pizza!)

How To: Get Involved

Is this your first semester as a SILS student? Perhaps you’ve been here for a couple semesters, but remain unaware of our student organizations!

ISSUE was founded to promote the education of undergraduate Information Science students. Membership is extended to all undergraduate majors and minors and other undergraduates taking classes at SILS. Our current president is Marcos Prieto (mprieto@live.unc.edu). Associated with ISSUE is AITP-RTP, a student chapter sponsored by the Association of Information Technology Professionals at Research Triangle Park.

The Business-Technology Club is a joint effort between undergraduate students in the Business School and SILS. It is a career-driven organization that aids tech-savvy students in networking within the local and national business-tech community. Additionally, the club will help students understand the necessary skills they will need for a successful internship and job search. Contact President Graham Lombardi (Graham_Lombardi@kenan-flagler.unc.edu) for additional information.

The Information Science student organization at the Master’s level is called ASSIST, and membership is open to undergraduate students. This student chapter advances the organization’s goals at the local level by sponsoring lectures, panel discussions, field trips, and other activities. Our current president is Curt Arledge (carledge@live.unc.edu).

These organizations provide a fantastic avenue to meet fellow students and network with employers during events.

— Kaitlyn Murphy, Student Services Manager
Get to Know Your Faculty: **Stephanie Haas**

A member of the SILS faculty since 1989, Dr. Haas is the current Director of the MSIS program.

What courses do you teach?

INLS 523 Database 1  
INLS 582 Systems Analysis  
INLS 512 Applications of Natural Language Processing

What is your favorite aspect of teaching?

“The not succeeding at something the first time isn’t failure – not trying again is.”

One word to describe how you’re feeling when you teach.

ALIVE.

How do you generate discussion in your classroom?

Often I start with some aspect of the topic that is familiar to the students in their everyday lives. Then I can ask questions that expand to a larger context. For example, in Systems Analysis, we talk about problems, problem symptoms, and the risks of not solving the problem. There's a great article: Swan, L., Taylor, A., & Harper, R. (2008). Making place for clutter and other ideas of home. ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction, 15(2), Article 9. Everyone has clutter someplace in their lives, so we start with their own experience of clutter. Then I ask them to translate their ideas into the workplace.

What is the greatest strength of the undergraduate program?

Students' enthusiasm for improving how we interact with information and information systems.

A piece of advice for Information Science majors?

Not succeeding at something the first time isn’t failure – not trying again is.

Currently reading any books?

I just finished The Riddle of the Labyrinth: the Quest to Crack an Ancient Code, which combines history, mystery, and and linguistics all into 1 exciting book.


What is your favorite meal on Franklin Street?

Wild mushroom grit cake at Top of the Hill.

A member of the SILS faculty since 1989, Dr. Haas specializes in natural language processing, information retrieval, sublanguage and terminology, genre and discourse structure. She is a respected scholar and teacher who has won the Outstanding Teacher Award three times, as well as the ASIS&T Outstanding Information Science Teacher Award. She earned her B.S. from the University of Connecticut; an M.A.L.S. from Wesleyan University; and her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.
Featured Student: Alaina Sajatovic

This summer, senior Alaina Sajatovic spent her summer in Houston, TX, as an intern in GE Oil & Gas’ Information Technology Leadership Program (ITLP).

She learned about the internship via the SILS listserv, which advertised an upcoming GE information session.

She worked as a member of the Chief Technology Officer’s team, and was involved in everything from creating an IT Project Management Office to evaluating collaboration tools to leading a gamification initiative. “I was the only intern on the team,” Alaina said, “and I was given assignments and responsibilities equal to those of a full-time employee. SILS coursework was instrumental to my success in the internship. Specifically, INLS 382: Systems Analysis & Design, INLS 261: Tools for Information Literacy, and INLS 285: Information Use for Organizational Effectiveness. Each class prepared me for entering the world of enterprise IT. I’m incredibly excited to be joining General Electric and, above all, I’m thankful to the SILS faculty for preparing me for the job of my dreams!”

At the end of the internship, Sajatovic accepted an offer for a full-time role in the program with a start date in 2014.

Registration Q&A

Q: What are Special Topics courses and where can I find information on Special Topics courses at SILS?

A: Special Topics courses are numbered INLS 490, 690, and 890. These courses are developed to cover emerging issues or specialized content not represented in the main curriculum.

The courses are not offered every semester (and may only be offered once), so it is important that you take advantage of these offerings in the semester that they become available.

A list of Special Topics courses offered by semester can be found here: http://sils.unc.edu/courses/special-topics. Keep in mind these courses have variable credit, which means they are offered for 1.5—3 credit hours (depending on the course). You can change the credit hour value in Connect Carolina when registering.

Special Topics courses can also count as electives for the major or minor.
Important Dates

- **September 27**
  Last day to apply for Dec graduation

- **October 14**
  Last day to submit P/F; last day to drop

- **October 16—18**
  Fall Break

- **November 27—29**
  Thanksgiving Recess

- **December 4**
  Fall classes end

- **December 9—13**
  Exams

- **December 15**
  Commencement

Questions?

Is there someone or something you would like to see featured in the next edition? Let us know! We love feedback.

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Connect with us!
Stay current on the Information Science (IS) major at UNC and the field of IS. Join the conversation; learn about current news, events, and updates.

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