

Leading the Field

Background on Knowledge Superiority

Knowledge is hailed widely as one of the very few, sustainable sources of competitive advantage for organizations in the Information Age. But knowledge is distributed unevenly through the enterprise, clumping noticeably in particular people, organizations, locations and times of application. Getting knowledge to flow from where and when it is located to where and when it is needed for action represents an essential aspect of knowledge-based competition.

However, knowledge is distinct from information and data, and competing on a knowledge basis requires more than just setting up high-bandwidth computer networks, shunting great volumes of data bits around the world, and making large online information repositories accessible broadly. Although such network, data and information steps are important for knowledge flows, they are clearly insufficient. Rather, flows of knowledge build upon flows of network signals, data and information, as knowledge—particularly tacit, experiential knowledge—resides principally in the minds of people and the routines of organizations. Hence competing on a knowledge basis involves more than technology: it requires deft integration of people, processes, organizations and technology alike. This pushes knowledge-based competition beyond the limited, technical realm of many information sciences, and makes it a relatively challenging but quintessentially effective basis for sustainable competitive advantage. The study of Knowledge Superiority focuses precisely on such sustainable, knowledge-based, competitive advantages.

Program Information

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Department of Information Sciences
Announces

KNOWLEDGE SUPERIORITY

*Master of Science Track and
Online Certificate Program*

Applications accepted year-round.

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

Knowledge Superiority Programs at the Naval Postgraduate School

The Information Sciences department at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) is pleased to announce two new offerings—a Master of Science Track and an online Advanced Certificate Program—in Knowledge Superiority within the Information Systems Technology (370) Curriculum. Information Systems Technology (IST) is an interdisciplinary, graduate-level, master's program integrating mathematics, accounting, economics, statistics, computer science, information systems, communications engineering, networks, and management disciplines.

The Knowledge Superiority Master of Science Track and the online Advanced Certificate Program both allow students to build upon an understanding of technical systems in networks, databases, systems analysis, decision support systems and like subjects to develop higher level design capabilities. Students learn more than designing only technical systems: they learn to integrate technical system designs into socio-technical system designs which include people, processes and organizations. This higher level design capability enables graduates to escape the relatively narrow confines of purely technological jobs, and to support directly knowledge flows, attention focusing and decision making at the highest levels of the Military and Government.

Advance Your Skills

- Gain high-level design capabilities.
- Escape the narrow confines of purely technological jobs.
- Support decision making at the highest levels of the Military and Government!

Master of Science Track

for NPS Resident Students

This resident curriculum, as part of the IST master's program, provides officers with the knowledge of information systems technology to include computer and telecommunications systems, software engineering, and networked and distributed applications in Defense. Students also gain proficiency in analysis and refinement of knowledge management programs and requirements, and they learn the socio-technical design principles necessary to harness knowledge for sustainable competitive advantage.

Advanced Certificate Program

for Working Professionals

This online Certificate Program is designed principally for working professionals who are not currently registered as resident students at NPS—or at least not yet—and offers them the same, high-quality, graduate education courses taken by resident students in this IST specialty area.

Credits for these courses are transferable readily to any other, accredited university, and they may be applied directly toward NPS degree work by those deciding to continue their education later as resident NPS students. Program completion results in an official NPS transcript to document the powerful knowledge learned through this unique, Defense-focused certificate program.

Coursework

Curriculum Overview

The Knowledge Superiority Track and the Certificate Program consist of four courses—two core courses and two electives—to equip students with current, specialized, high-power knowledge about knowledge superiority.

Core courses

IS3210

*Issues in Defense Knowledge
& Information Management*

IS4210

Knowledge Superiority

Elective courses

Students can choose any two from a list of 11 courses in Computer Science, Information Science and Space Systems.

How Do I Get Started?

Applications are accepted year-round. For more information on eligibility, prerequisites, enrollment, scheduling and sponsorship, fees, and other information, please visit us online.