

# ICGB 6910 Information Systems Waiver Exam Preparation Guide

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course includes instruction on information systems principles, use of information systems in organizations, computing hardware and software, databases, computer networks, applications, systems development, information systems planning and contemporary issues related to IS management such as e-commerce. After successfully meeting the course requirements, one should be:

- informed and versed in information systems terminology and concepts;
- knowledgeable about core computer technologies including networks, the Internet, the Web, and the databases;
- familiar with common computer applications and how they are used in organizations;
- aware of the tools and methods that are used to develop information systems; and
- more capable and competent at planning for and controlling information systems as well as meaningfully participate in business dialogs and decisions that involve information technologies..

The waiver exam is primarily intended for those students who feel that they have a good understanding of information technologies and their use in organizations through practical experience and/or prior course work.

Because of the key role information systems are playing in organizations, the students nominally familiar with the subject matter should not attempt the waiver examination. The exam itself is demanding and the grading is stern to filter out the students with cursory knowledge of the field.

## PREPARATION MATERIAL

There are two major sources that you may use to prepare for the Information Systems waiver exam, including a text and current event readings/articles. It is recommended that all individuals who want to take the waiver exam study the following material:

1. **Text:** Management Information Systems, Managing the Digital Firm (latest edition), Laudon & Laudon which provides the fundamental concepts and terminology related to the information systems course. The text book carries most (almost 80%) of the examination weight. Specifically, the following information is important:

- Chapters 1 to 10 of the text are the main areas of focus. These chapters cover the IS principles, the use of IS in organization, and the information technology components (computing hardware, software, databases, networks, and the Internet).
- The case studies at the end of the aforementioned chapters. These case studies show real life examples and provide insights into how information systems are being used in organizations.
- Review of other chapters (11through 15) is also important as it pertains to integration, re-engineering and knowledge management issues.

2. **Current Event Readings and Articles:** The current event readings include relevant up-to-date information regarding recent developments and innovations in the information systems field. These articles would appear in the Information Systems /Computer Technology periodicals (e.g., CIO magazine [www.cio.com](http://www.cio.com)) as well as the Wall Street Journal. A person who is associated with information technology in the corporate arena would be familiar with these readings and their content in the recent 1-2 years.

The examination will be a closed book exam consisting of two parts. The first part consists of multiple choice questions (80% credit) and the second part consists of short essays (20%). To pass the examination, you will be expected to score 80% or higher.

Any questions about the exam should be directed to Prof. Raghupathi ([raghupathi@fordham.edu](mailto:raghupathi@fordham.edu))

