

# The Introduction to Information Systems Course: A Topical Examination

Kevin Slonka  
slonka@pitt.edu  
Information Sciences Department  
University of Pittsburgh  
Greensburg, PA 15601 USA

Neelima Bhatnagar  
bhatnagr@pitt.edu  
Information Sciences Department  
University of Pittsburgh  
Greensburg, PA 15601 USA

## **Abstract**

The introductory Information Systems (IS) course is a critical course at the beginning of every IS/IT major's degree. While many textbooks exist that are focused solely on this course, they all vary in the covered topics and the depth of material. This research examined most major textbooks focused on the introductory course and, through qualitative and quantitative analysis, reached a final set of 14 themes that should be taught in this course. Implications are drawn and the groundwork for future studies are laid.

**Keywords:** Information Systems, introductory, foundations, textbook, competency, knowledge

An updated manuscript may be found on the ISEDJ website; <https://isedj.org>