

Thesis/Research Project:

Students are required to complete a thesis or research project that investigates a significant interdisciplinary, applications-oriented topic centered in the area of concentration. The degree program requires a total of 6 hours of credit in either ISAT 770 or ISAT 771.

The topic for a thesis or research project is to be chosen at the completion of ISAT 601. The student will be directed by his or her Degree Committee in the choice of topic as well as choosing whether to do a thesis or a research project. For example, the topic for a thesis might be the development of a mathematical model through theoretical experimentation. The topic for a research project may also be the development of a technological solution to an industrial problem through applied methods.

***ISAT 770. Thesis.** Credit 1- 6 hours each semester with hours needed for graduation. Prerequisites: ISAT 600, 601 and approval of Program Coordinator. The thesis will investigate a significant interdisciplinary topic centered in the area of student's concentration. The results must provide a significant contribution to the knowledge based to the discipline. The thesis is graded Pass/Fail. The student must enroll in the thesis course each semester that the thesis is in progress.

***ISAT 771. Research Project.** Credit 1 - 6 hours each semester with hours needed for graduation. Prerequisites: ISAT 600, 601 and approval of Program Coordinator. Students will design and implement a research project. Research project will investigate a significant interdisciplinary, applications-oriented topic centered in the area of the student's concentration. The research project is graded Pass/Fail. The student must enroll in the research project each semester that the research project is in progress.

Degree Committee: Each candidate for the ISAT degree will have a Degree Committee that will work with the student to select his or her course of study and the project or thesis for the research component of the degree. Each Degree Committee will consist of two faculty members from the student's major area, one faculty member from an area also involved in the degree, and a representative from business or industry.

The Degree Committee will work with the student to design a degree plan that will fit the needs and career goals of the student and meet the requirements of the degree. The Degree Committee will also work with the student on research project selection, thus providing direction for the research component. A student's Degree Committee will be selected during the student's second semester in the program. Research project topics will be chosen during the student's first year in the program, but after completion of the Applied Science Seminars. Individual course plans and schedules vary depending on a student's background and work responsibilities.