Admission to the graduate degree programs in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education will be conducted in accordance with College and University policies (please refer to the "Admission Requirements and Procedures" section of the current Graduate Bulletin). In general, these procedures include the submission of an application form and credentials to Graduate Studies. An application fee of $50.00 is required (whether in-state or out-of-state) for each application you submit. If this fee is not paid, your application file will be withheld until proper payment is made.

The Application for Admission to the program is completed online. Students need to go to the Graduate School’s Web site and apply via admissionspro [https://usmgrad.admissionpros.com/default.asp]. The Application materials for the Instructional Technology program will include the following items:

1. Transcripts from previous institutions.
2. An application form.
3. Results from the GRE or MAT. TOEFL test result from international students.
4. A letter explaining the applicant's interest in and reasons for pursuing the degree in a letter of intent or application.
5. Three letters of recommendation sent by the letter writers themselves. These individuals should be past instructors, supervisors, administrators, co-workers, etc.
6. A resume of academic and job-related experiences.
7. If appropriate, a copy of current teaching licenses/certificates.

The Program Admissions Committee will review all completed applications and recommend appropriate actions. Admission to the Master of Science in Instructional Technology is contingent upon a positive recommendation of the Program Admissions Committee and the approval of the Department Chair, the Dean of the College of Education and Psychology, and the Dean of the Graduate School.

Students, who wish to apply for a graduate assistantship, must send a separate letter requesting consideration directly to the IT Master’s Admissions Committee Chair, Dr. Shuyan Wang (shuyan.wang@usm.edu) and to the Department Chair.

Criteria

Regular admission to the Master of Science in Instructional Technology (IT) at The University of Southern Mississippi is selective and contingent upon having graduated from a college or university accredited by a recognized regional accrediting agency. In addition, the graduate admissions committee for IT will recommend admittance for those applicants whose academic background, computer competency, and work experience meet the challenging demands of the IT program. In evaluating applications, the admissions committee will utilize the following criteria:

- An undergraduate grade point average [GPA] equivalent to an ability to complete graduate work.
Recently, students regularly admitted to the Master's program have obtained GPAs exceeding 2.90 on a 4.0 point scale for the last 64 hours of undergraduate study.

- Scores from the Graduate Record Examination [GRE] that is predictive of the ability to successfully complete the graduate program. TOEFL scores indicate international students’ language capabilities and skills.
- Three letters of recommendation from individuals in the field of education or computer applications who can assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study. These letters should reflect the student's knowledge of technology and computer applications and must be sent directly to the department. Also, the letters must be accompanied by the required Waiver Form.

An applicant who fails to meet the above criteria for regular admission may be considered for **conditional admission** on an individual basis. Students accepted on a conditional basis must complete 9 semester hours of program coursework with a B or better in each course. The student is responsible to inform his/her advisor and/or the Department Chair when conditional status is to be removed.

**Graduate Assistantship**

Students, who wish to apply for a graduate assistantship (GA), must send a separate letter requesting consideration directly to the Department Chair and CC: to Dr. Shuyan Wang [shuyan.wang@usm.edu]. The GA position is very competitive in the department. In the letter, students need to specify their skills and experiences as well as why you are qualified to the GA position. The department has an application process for graduate assistantships that is based on need, academic quality, experience, etc. Tuition fees are covered by the assistantship and a stipend is provided. General hours of work expected for the assistantship is 20 hours per week.

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**Master's of Science in Instructional Technology**  
Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education  
The University of Southern Mississippi  
Hattiesburg, MS, United States