

MEMO

FROM: Bill Ferns, Associate Professor

DATE: December 21, 2013

RE: Department of Homeland Security OPT Extension for STEM Programs

The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has a program in which international students who graduate from STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) degree programs can get an additional 17-month extension on their optional practical training (OPT); please see (<http://www.dhs.gov/news/2012/05/11/dhs-announces-expanded-list-stem-degree-programs>).

The list of the DHS-approved programs is available at: <http://www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/stem-list.pdf>. The CIP code (Classification of Instructional Programs) of the program determines whether the program is on the list.

The CIS program at Baruch offers three degrees that are on the DHS-approved program list:

- BBA in Computer Information Systems: 11.0401-- Information Science / Studies;
- MBA in Information Systems: 11.0401--Information Science / Studies;
- MS in Information Systems: 11.0103--Information Technology

The definitions of these CIPs are below my signature.

Please pass this on to any staff and faculty who work with international students.

If you have any questions, please write Prof. Bill Ferns at bill.fern@baruch.cuny.edu.

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CIS Code Definitions

11.0103 Information Technology

Definition: A program that focuses on the design of technological information systems, including computing systems, as solutions to business and research data and communications support needs. Includes instruction in the principles of computer hardware and software components, algorithms, databases, telecommunications, user tactics, application testing, and human interface design.

11.0401: Information Science/Studies.

Definition: A program that focuses on the theory, organization, and process of information collection, transmission, and utilization in traditional and electronic forms. Includes instruction in information classification and organization; information storage and processing; transmission, transfer, and signaling; communications and networking; systems planning and design; human interfacing and use analysis; database development; information policy analysis; and related aspects of hardware, software, economics, social factors, and capacity.