Ways to Meet the IINF 523 Requirement

INF 523 Fundamentals of Information Technology is a four credit course consisting of four modules of one credit each. The course is meant to make sure that students are prepared for the core courses required as part of the Information Science PhD program.

The course consists of these selected topics as individual modules:

- Database Applications
- Introduction to Programming
- Web Technologies
- Unix and Networking

Students entering the PhD program are required to pass the content of all four modules. Typically, students pass this requirement during the first semester of study in one of five ways:

1. File for a waiver based on previous coursework and/or academic credentials in computer science using the form that follows. The coursework you present should be broadly in the area. For example, the Introduction to Programming module uses Java. The Introduction to Programming course that you took may have been in another language. That is acceptable. Another example is the Database Applications module, which is based on Microsoft ACCESS. You may have had coursework using another approach or based on another software program.

2. Take a short quiz. If you are familiar with the areas that the modules cover, but do not have formal coursework on your transcript, you can take the quiz during your first semester. Using this approach, you may be able to eliminate one or more modules you need to take during the semester.

3. Take from one to four of the modules during the Fall semester either online (from sites such as Coursera: https://www.coursera.org/) or through other departments at the University. Note that these modules are NOT offered by the Department of Informatics.

4. Take another short quiz in January. This option is offered for those students who have considerable background and/or experience in an area, but would prefer to brush up and take the quiz later in the semester. We do NOT recommend this option unless you have a strong technical background, because if you do not pass the quiz in January, you will be in default for the first year requirements. Check with the Program Director before choosing this option. Also, please let the Program Director know if you are choosing this option so that we can schedule the follow-up quiz in January.

5. File for a waiver based on your service as an instructor of record for a course that covers one or more of the four modules.

If you have any questions about which of these options may be best for you, please consult with the Program Director and make a more informed decision.
IINF 523
Waiver Request Form

NAME: ___________________________ DATE: ______________

INF 523 Fundamentals of Information Technology is a four credit course consisting of four modules of one credit each. It is an introduction to the fundamentals of information technology. The course is meant to make sure that students are prepared for the core courses required as part of the Information Science PhD program. The course consists of these selected topics as individual modules:
1. Database Applications
2. Introduction to Programming
3. Web Technologies
4. Unix and Networking

Indicate the module(s) to be waived, the title of the course ALREADY taken which substitutes for that module or the name of the academic credential, the institution where the course was taken or credential was earned, the year the course was completed or the credential was earned, the author and title of the textbook used in the course or URL of online course site, and the student’s final grade in the course, certificate earned (if online), or indicate that you served as an instructor of record. Sign the form and bring it to the INF PhD Program Director for approval.

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<tr>
<th>Module to be Waived</th>
<th>Title of Course Taken or Name of Academic Credential</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Year Taken or Received</th>
<th>Title/Author of Textbook or URL of online course site</th>
<th>Grade in Course or certificate earned (if online) or Instructor</th>
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Comments:

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Signature of Student

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Signature of INF Program Director

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Date