



## IT education leads to hot jobs

Make no mistake. Recession or not, while many industries have been forced to make severe job cuts, many career opportunities in Information Technology are still hot.

According to the January 1, 2009 issue of *ComputerWorld*, the 9 Hottest IT Skills for 2009 include programming/application development, help desk/technical support, project management, networking, business intelligence and security. A few months earlier, when *U.S. News and World Report* Writer Liz Wolgemuth reported on *USnews.com* a list of top-10 recession proof jobs, the field of technology swept all three top positions with computer systems analysis, network systems and data communications analysis, and networking and computer systems administrators.

### IT jobs deliver

Not only are these jobs widely available, but they also deliver. In yet another report on hot jobs for 2009, Joy Victory of *PayScale.com* estimated the average yearly salary of a network/systems administrator to be about \$54,193, and for a software designer/developer an average yearly salary of \$72,000. The salaries are median, annual salaries for full-time workers with five to eight years of experience including bonuses and commissions or profit sharing.

What's more, an article Forrester Research, Inc. published in August 2008 predicted that hot IT roles will be driven in the near-term by the need for cross-disciplined employees who are able to fill multiple roles. Forrester is an independent research company with 25 years of IT industry experience.

Whether you are new to the field or an experienced IT professional, there's never been a better time to earn your Bachelor of Science in Information Technology degree from University of Phoenix.

Take a quick look at how the "9 Hottest IT Skills" line up with skills you'll learn as a student in our Bachelor of Science in Information Technology program.

# BSIT degree aligns with hot IT jobs

Hottest IT Skill for 2009	BSIT v6 Program Alignment
Programming/Application Development	All students in BSIT v6 take courses in programming logic fundamentals, business systems, business systems development and SQL for business. Students taking the <b>Software Engineering (SE)</b> concentration take advanced courses in software architecture and .NET.
Help Desk/Technical Support	Students taking the concentration in <b>Information Technology Support (ITS)</b> learn the considerations for desktop and customer support. Several courses in this concentration are aligned with the content covering the CompTIA A+® *certification.
Project Management	All students in BSIT v6 take one course in project planning and implementation and apply concepts learned in course assignments throughout the program. Students taking the <b>Business Systems Analysis (BSA)</b> concentration study further application of advanced project management techniques.
Networking	Beyond an introductory networking and telecommunications course taken by all BSIT v6 students, students taking the <b>Networking and Telecommunications (NTC)</b> concentration take courses in local area, wireless and wide area networks. Students in the NTC concentration experience a number of lab exercises covering the content related to the CompTIA Network+® body of knowledge.
Business Intelligence	This particular area as defined in the article is not emphasized in the BSIT v6 program although students receive education addressing information systems considerations for supporting business processes and decision making.
Security	The BSIT v6 program addresses the subject of information systems security in a number of areas which include but are not limited to systems design, networking and databases. Students in the <b>Information Systems Security (ISS)</b> concentration examine advanced topics including Unix, Windows Server networking, IS security, risk management and enterprise security.
WEB 2.0	This area is surveyed in a number of core Web courses and is further explored in the <b>Multimedia and Visual Communication (MVC)</b> concentration of the BSIT v6 program.
Data Center	The primary subject of virtualization will be introduced in several core courses of the BSIT v6 program during 2009.
Telecommunications	The area of telecommunications is a combined area with networking covered in both the core of the BSIT v6 as well as the <b>Networking and Telecommunications (NTC)</b> concentration.