**IST 701 Individual project: 25% of Grade**

Spring 2012

As an MBA graduate, you will be asked to perform research on a topic that applies directly to your work environment. In this class, Introduction to Information Technology, you will assume the role of a senior member of the company’s Information Systems staff who has been asked to investigate the latest developments in the field of IS as they relate to your company. You will be asked to research the present state of the art and to bring forward a specific proposal to improve your company be incorporating the technology. Your project will include:

1. Choice of topic from the following list
   1. Supply chain management
   2. Database management system
   3. Cloud computing
   4. Security
   5. Internet marketing including social media
   6. Finance, including compliance reporting
   7. Human resources
   8. Enterprise resource planning
   9. Sales force management
   10. Incorporating “big data”
2. Choose an industry focus. For example, a community bank, or a local hospital ore an insurance company. The only criteria are that you know something about companies in this field and they are large enough to need major upgrades to their existing Information Systems. (Think over $500m in revenue)
3. Research the choice in 1. Above and how it applies to the company you have chosen. The company can be fictitious. Do not select an existing company to find out what they are using. This is not a field research project.
4. Prepare a board level report that makes recommendations for improvements in the area selected. Give information relative to the scope, timing and cost of installing your idea along with an estimate of the cost impact to the company for making the change.
5. Hard copy and electronic formats are required.
6. Project is due April 10th.