Welcome Health Information Technology Degree Student!

Health Information Technology is a fast growing career offering many new opportunities for you. It is predicted to be one of the fastest growing professions over the next several years. There are many new and important changes in the area of HIT such as the Electronic Health Record (EHR) and the transition from ICD-9 CM to ICD-10-CM coding systems, and ICD-9-PCS to ICD-10-PCS changes. You will be studying in a field on the cutting edge in healthcare.

We look forward to working with you during your course of study for the HIT degree program. You will be required to take general education core and health science classes and then you will continue into the HIT program specific courses.

In your last semester you will be required to participate in the HIMT 2460 Health Information Technology Practicum—Professional Practicum Experience (PPE) course. This course is designed for the student to engage in real-life experiences, and you will have the opportunity to work with professionals who are on the cutting edge of the profession and technology for their areas of expertise.

You will have an opportunity to participate at medical facilities including South Georgia Medical Center and Smith-Northview (off-campus site for SGMC), Coffee Regional Medical Center, Azalea Health Innovations, several area health departments, and local physician facilities. You may be given an assignment at Moody Air Force base or the local prison. We will work with you to select several sites to provide a varied experience.

This experience will provide the opportunity for you to showcase your skills for potential future employment. Remember, you should demonstrate your best work ethics and HIT skills at the sites in which you participate.

The Practicum course consists of 135 hours with 110 of those hours devoted to the PPE. The other 25 hours are devoted to orientation to the PPE, your portfolio, and your RHIT exam preparation. Therefore, if you are employed at the time you are enrolled in this course you will need to make arrangements for time off from your job. Completion of this course is a requirement for graduation from the HIT degree program.

Please acknowledge below that you have read and are aware of the above information. You will also be provided a copy of this form and a copy of the form with your signature will be placed in your folder in the HIT department. Please sign and return to Susan Jackson, Room 212, Berrien Hall. For more questions please email susan.jackson@wiregrass.edu or call Susan Jackson 229.245.6495.

_____________________________________________________________________________________
Student Name Date:

_____________________________________________________________________________________
Witness: Date:

Created July 2012