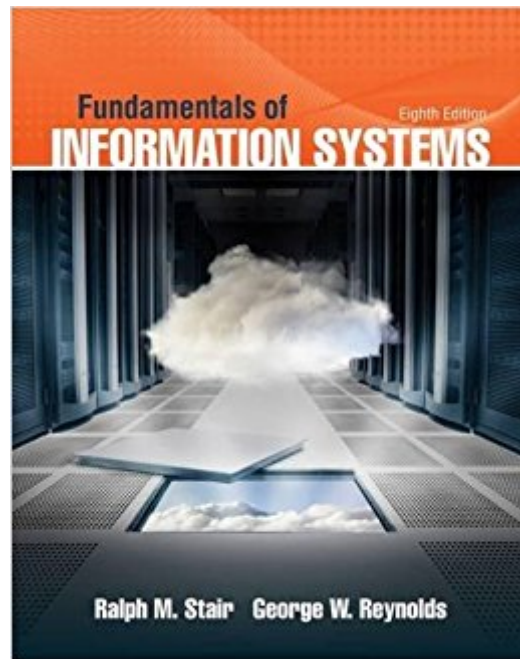




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Fundamentals Of Information Systems



Synopsis

Equipping you with a solid understanding of the core principles of IS and how it is practiced, the brief **FUNDAMENTALS OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS, 8E** covers the latest developments from the field and their impact on the rapidly changing role of today's IS professional. A concise nine chapters, this streamlined book includes expansive coverage of mobile solutions, energy and environmental concerns, cloud computing, IS careers, virtual communities, global IS work solutions, and social networking. You learn firsthand how information systems can increase profits and reduce costs as you explore new information on e-commerce and enterprise systems, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, green computing, and other issues reshaping the industry. The book also introduces the challenges and risks of computer crimes, hacking, and cyberterrorism. A long-running example illustrates how technology was used in the design, development, and production of this book. No matter where your career path may lead, **FUNDAMENTALS OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS, 8E** can help you maximize your success as an employee, a decision maker, and a business leader.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Ralph Stair received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University, an M.B.A. from Tulane University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. He has taught at the University of Oregon, the University of Washington, the University of New Orleans, and Florida State University. He has taught several courses through Florida State University's Study Abroad Program in London.

Throughout the years, Dr. Stair has focused his teaching and research on information systems. He has endowed the Ralph Stair Prize in Innovative Education at Florida State University. He also provided funding for the Stair-Harkrider scholarship and the Ralph Stair Prize in Academic Improvement at his high school in Wisconsin. Professor George Reynolds brings a wealth of business, teaching, and writing experience to this book. His successful business career spans four decades of working in government, institutional, and business IS organizations. Professor Reynolds combines this business and industry experience with exceptional teaching skills to deliver a text that is both practical and focused on the needs of today's student. Professor Reynolds has taught IS at the University of Cincinnati, Xavier University (Ohio), Miami University (Ohio), the College of Mount St. Joseph, and Strayer University. He has held positions at the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, Texas; the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, California; and Procter & Gamble and Atos IT Services in Cincinnati, Ohio. Professor Reynolds has authored more than two dozen popular textbooks addressing various aspects of today's information technology and business.

exactly the high level overview I was looking for. I also really like the format with key words on the left margin. The structure and format is great and makes it easy to skim through. Each chapter has ~100+ references to academic articles and there are countless real world examples both as narratives and as problems for solving

Kind of outdated at this point but you can't really fault them for that because technology is moving so fast. I consider myself pretty tech savvy but this helped me understand the industry lingo and how both small and large corporations run their IT systems. Good read.

Don't waste your money if you planned on using this for a class. You cannot read this on computers because it gives an error stating that the book cannot be read using the Kindle app for Windows. I am now forced to try to do assignments from this title via my Kindle Fire. The Kindle Fire is great for browsing your favorite novel, but horrible to try to do homework and study.

This was a well-organized textbook that incorporated contemporary topics and issues and illustrated the material with examples from public and private institutions. Review materials at the end of each chapter were highly supportive. However, I found reading the textbook extremely fatiguing on my eyes and cumbersome. The glossy paper reflected light rather than illuminating the page. Page layouts were attractive and the small font packed a great deal of material but the combination of

small, tight lettering and off-black ink contrasted less well against the white page. The color inserts were particularly difficult to read.

I bought this book for an MBA class. This book feels like the authors were trying to stretch everything to make more text. Entire paragraphs that should have been condensed down to one line fill the book. They stretch it to the point that it is hard to follow while you're trying to find the point of each section.

A little boring but a mandatory IT read for a course. Return process worked well for this rental.

This book provides some very good information. I purchased the kindle copy and was quite satisfied with the layout, content and navigation. What I was not pleased with, is the constant and obviously biased comments for one particular technology company and their products. Reading this book, I know what brand of laptop, cellphone and tablet the authors probably have and I find that disappointing. A textbook is supposed to inform, not convey biased information.

I'm glad I rented the book and didn't buy it [that system, by the way, worked smoothly]. There are ideas of merit in here, and you do gain an appreciation for how organizations at a small and enterprise level cope with organizing their IT systems. There is a fair amount of time dedicated to acronyms that I suspect may be on their way out, if they aren't already [Executive Support System, Decision Support System, etc.]. Early on, there were some issues that made me wary:--"Sony's Wii, a videogame system" [wrong company name]. This isn't a horrible mistake and possibly an easy one to make, but much of the book's writing has a repetitive wording/phrasing when backing up a concept: they tell you it's important, then it up by using a real-life anecdote with a company [hopefully accurate] and the term or idea being used. Any depth about /how/ or /what/ about the /application/ of the thing [like what would make it problematic, or when it could be done better or worse] is generally not explored. Here is an example I am making up: "Inventory Management Systems, or IMS, help organizations keep an accurate count of their resources. FamousCompanyInc. used IMS to save _____ dollars/cut costs/reduce waste/increase market share by _____ percent in 2004 [footnote]." And then it goes to something else. There's nothing inherently wrong with this format, but the lack of depth [and the aforementioned typo about what company was actually responsible] made reading passages and subsequent chapters repetitive and less rewarding. This is less true with the case studies at the end of chapters, but our

instructor didn't focus on these as much because they seemed more supplemental.--An entire paragraph in an early chapter was reprinted word for word. I only saw this once, but made me more aware of it. Lots of pictures that are used to fill space. A picture of a person smiling at a computer does not, at this level, help differentiate or explain what a software engineer is compared to say, the I.T. helpdesk staff. There are lots of pictures throughout the book of people at computers, talking with coworkers, or in meetings. They don't really add much value other than to break up the writing and give your eyes a break [which might not be so bad, on second thought]. Most diagrams that explain networks and the organization information systems are clear and useful, a few diagrams are obtuse. Terrible? Well, I suppose not. But there are some issues here that, if there are more editions coming, might need addressing.

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