



## **“311 NMIMS-Virginia Tech.” Coordinated initiative Opportunity to pursue B. Tech. (NMIMS), BS& MS (Virginia Tech)**

### **Frequently asked Questions (FAQs)**

- 1. What are the three degrees that will be offered on successful completion of the 5 year coordinated initiative?**
  - a. B. Tech Computer Science and Engineering (Data Science) (MPSTME, NMIMS)
  - b. BS degree in Business Information Technology with a specialization in Cybersecurity Management and Analytics, Pamplin College of Business, Virginia Tech (**STEM Program**)
  - c. MS degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Business Analytics from the Pamplin College of Business, Virginia Tech.

**The B. Tech. degree will be awarded at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> year, while the BS and MS degrees will be offered at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year.**

- 2. What Virginia Tech's rankings where these programs will be pursued?**
  - Virginia Tech's MIT Cyber Security program ranked #1 by College Factual
  - Virginia Tech's BIT Management Sciences Quantitative Methods / Business Analytics program ranked # 1 by College Factual.
  - The Masters of Information Technology program conducted by the Pamplin College of Business is ranked # 4 in the USA
  - Virginia Tech is ranked in the top 30 public universities in the USA
  - Virginia Tech as a university is ranked #74 overall by US News.
- 3. What will be the duration of the coordinated program?**
  - 5 years
  - First 3 years at MPSTME, NMIMS
  - Fourth and Fifth year at VT
- 4. What will be the total Fees of the program?**
  - The fee structure for B. Tech will be as per NMIMS University norms.
  - Fees for the 4<sup>th</sup> and the fifth year will be out of state tuition fees as prescribed by the Virginia Tech Bursar's Office. The present out of state tuition fees are around USD 34,000 per year for academic year 2021-22.

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- Students should note that the fees at VT would be applicable after 3 years from the year of admission for academic year 2021-22.
- These fees do not include cost of stay, which are estimated to be around USD 1000 pm.
- Aspirants should also consider the cost savings of a 5 year BS & MS program conducted in US versus the cost of the coordinated program where the first 3 years are completed in India, leading to 3 degrees.

**5. Am I exempted from GRE/GMAT/TOEFL/IELTS exams to get admitted for the coordinated program at Virginia Tech?**

- GRE / GMAT will not be required, provided GPA requirements are met.
- TOEFL/IELTS is not required for students whose mode of teaching/learning is in English language

**6. What will be the course content of all of these programs?**

The course content for the three programs has been decided in mutual consultation by NMIMS and VT academic authorities keeping in focus respective university guidelines.

**7. Will I be eligible to get placement in USA after completing the 5 year program?**

Students emerging from this program qualify for Optional Practical Training (OPT) up to 3 years as per US laws, presently prevalent.

**8. For how many years can I stay back in USA after completing the program?**

As per present US laws, OPT can be utilized up to 3 years.

**9. Will Virginia Tech assist me in getting OPT?**

Virginia Tech's International Graduate Student Services guides students through the OPT application process. (<https://graduateschool.vt.edu/student-life/immigration-services/employment/f1/optional-practical-training.html>)

**10. Do I have to bear the cost of VISA and TRAVEL TO USA after completing the first three years at NMIMS?**

Yes. A student will have to obtain his visa and travel documents. NMIMS and VT would facilitate the process.

**11. Will there be any Virginia Tech faculty members visiting to NMIMS to take orientation during the first 3 years?**

Yes, primarily to advise students for the US part of the program.

**12. How will the teaching-learning process be different for this program during the first three years at NMIMS?**

VT and NMIMS will jointly oversee the curriculum and course delivery, course outlines etc. In addition the liberal arts and general education component of 20-22 credits will be covered in the first 3 years.

**13. Will the exam pattern for this program be different than other programs offered by NMIMS?**

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NMIMS would follow the Virginia Tech. norms for assessment, grading and progression for this program.

**14. How is Virginia Tech involved in designing and teaching the course curriculum during the first three years at NMIMS?**

The entire curriculum for this program is co-designed and monitored by NMIMS and VT academic authorities.

**15. Will the MS degree be equivalent to what students admitted to Virginia Tech for the MS program get after completing their 4 year B. Tech program from any institute in India? Yes.**

**16. Why should I join this program?**

- The program is a unique blend of technology (with emphasis on data science), Cybersecurity Management & Analytics at BS and with Business Administration with a concentration in Business Analytics at MS level.
- Offering from two reputed universities in two vibrant economies of the world – India and USA.
- This is a unique blend offering, first of its kind, highly suited for industry
- It offers OPT
- It offers 3 degrees. B. Tech., BS and MS – two US degrees
- Seamless transition to MS without GMAT/GRE once the GPA requirements are met
- Cost savings of the order of 50 %.
- Offered at a location where there is a concentration of analytics and innovation activities – Mumbai and Innovation Campus, North Virginia, VT, near Washington DC.
- All requirements of a US program including the liberal arts and general education components will be covered in this program.

**17. How is this program different from other programs being offered in Data Science at NMIMS University?**

It is a program which will offer the right blend of domains / subdomains which will prepare graduates for business/ industry, that too at locations which would be the global center of activities for innovation and analytics.

**18. In which campus of Virginia Tech will the program be conducted?**

The program will be conducted at the **Innovation Campus** of VT, which is near the Washington DC area (<https://vt.edu/innovationcampus/index.html>). This campus is adjacent to Amazon's HQ 2.

**19. What is the accommodation cost in the Arlington VA area where the Innovation Campus is located.? Is it included in the tuition fee?**

It is not included in the tuition fees. Shared accommodation can be found in the range of USD 600-800 per month

**20. What are the admission criteria for the Virginia Tech programs?**

The minimum GPA for admission to the BS and MS programs will be 3.0

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**21. Is there any Exit option to this program?**

There is no exit option for this program. However, if a student fails to secure a US visa he/she will be able to complete the fourth year at NMIMS and receive the B. Tech. degree after completing the fourth year.

**22. Is there an option to get Teaching Assistantships (TA) or Research Assistantships (RA) during my coursework at Virginia Tech?**

Yes but it is extremely competitive.

**23. What is the admission process for this program?**

Admission will be based on NMIMS CET / SAT / ACT. Admission for this program would be jointly conducted by NMIMS and VT. For details visit [www.nmimscet.in](http://www.nmimscet.in)

**24. Is this program approved by AICTE and Government of India?**

The B. Tech. program is approved by AICTE. This is a coordinated and collaborative program where the exchange of credits will be taking place. NMIMS because of its Category -I Autonomy status is empowered to offer exchange programs and enter in to collaboration with reputed universities. The BS and MS degree programs are approved by VT and their accrediting bodies.

**25. What will be my single point of contact for getting all queries answered for this program?**

The chairperson / director for the program who will be interacting with NMIMS and Virginia Tech. email id: [Dhirendra.mishra@nmims.edu](mailto:Dhirendra.mishra@nmims.edu)

**26. How can I apply for this “311 “ program ?**

- Register for NMIMS CET by visiting the website [www.nmimscet.in](http://www.nmimscet.in)
- While indicating preferences choose the program “**B. Tech. Computer Science and Engineering (Data Science)**” which you will see in the dropdown option.
- When you go through the process of counselling, pl. mention that you would like to opt for “**B. Tech. Computer Science and Engineering (Data Science)**” program. By opting for this option during counselling, you would opt for the “NMIMS-VT 311 coordinated program.

**We wish aspirants all the best**

**Stay Safe and secure!**