

# Information Systems Education in Kenya: Students' Specialization Choice Trends (a Case Study of Kenya Polytechnic University College)

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## Abstract

The objective of this study was to determine the time and level of Information Systems (IS) awareness among Kenyan university students and the choice of IS as a field of specialization. The study posited that the choice of a field of specialization is dependent upon a student's awareness of its existence, its utilization in the real world, its career opportunities, and its strategic importance to the country's economic development agenda. It posited further that early IS awareness could have a positive impact on the choice of IS as a field of specialization. The underlying assumptions were that the time of IS awareness as a field of specialization among Kenyan university business students was late and levels low, leading to possible low levels of choice of IS as a field of specialization. Using the survey method, the case study found late and low levels of IS awareness as a field of specialization among university business students. Future studies linking time and levels of IS awareness with choice of IS as a field of specialization and with existence of requisite IS skills in the country (or lack thereof) are suggested.

**Keywords:** Specialization, Awareness, Systems Analytical Skills, Joint Admissions Board, Public Universities, University Colleges, Parallel Programmes.

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