**Foundations of IT**

**Defining Information Technology (1.01) Key Terms**

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| **Term** | **Definition** |
| **Information Technology** | The application of [computers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer) and [telecommunications equipment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommunications_equipment) to store, retrieve, transmit and manipulate data, often in the context of a business or other enterprise |
| **Mobile Computing** | [Human–computer interaction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human%E2%80%93computer_interaction) by which a [computer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer) is expected to be transported during normal usage |
| **Network Storage** | A high-speed [network](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/N/network.html) of shared [storage devices](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/S/storage_device.htm) |
| **Cloud Storage** | Networked [enterprise storage](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enterprise_storage) where data is stored not in the user's computer, but in virtualized pools of storage which are generally hosted by third parties |
| **Legacy devices** | An outdated [device](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/D/device.html) that a person or company has invested money in or is seen as an essential part of their system |
| **Smart Phone** | Smartphones are a handheld [device](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/D/device.html) that integrates mobile phone capabilities with the more common features of a handheld computer or [PDA](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/P/PDA.html). |
| **Global Positioning System** | A satellite navigation system used to determine ground position and velocity (location, speed, and direction). |
| **Information Support and Services Pathway** | Involves IT deployment, including implementing computer systems and software, providing technical assistance and managing information systems |
| **Network Systems Pathway** | Involves network analysis, planning and implementation, including design, installation, maintenance and management of network systems |
| **Web and Digital Communications Pathway** | Involves creating, designing and producing interactive multimedia products and services, including development of digitally-generated or computer-enhanced media used in business, training, entertainment, communications and marketing. |
| **Programming and Software Development Pathway** | Involves the design, development, implementation and maintenance of computer systems and software, requiring knowledge of computer operating systems, programming languages and software development |