

COMPUTER SCIENCE (BS)

Exploration and Discovery

This program focuses on the design and development of software systems with an emphasis on the creation of new technology. Students will build a framework of conceptual knowledge and practical skills through core computer science courses. A broad selection of electives offers the opportunity to delve into several of the application areas of Computer Science. Auxiliary courses in mathematics and science develop additional analytical skills necessary for success in the many computing specialties that graduates typically choose.

Degree Requirements

| Course | Title | Credits |
|---|--|---------|
| Major Requirements | | |
| CS 2010 | Computing Fundamentals (TECO) | 3 |
| CS 2220 | Computer Hardware | 3 |
| CS 2370 | Introduction to Programming | 4 |
| CS 2381 | Data Structures and Intermediate Programming | 4 |
| CS 2470 | Systems Programming in C/C++ | 2 |
| CS 3221 | Algorithm Analysis | 4 |
| CS 3600 | Database Management Systems & Security | 4 |
| CS 3720 | Systems Analysis and Design | 3 |
| CS 3780 | Introduction to Computational Theory | 3 |
| CS 4140 | Software Engineering | 3 |
| CS 4250 | Computer Architecture | 3 |
| CS 4310 | Operating Systems | 3 |
| CS 4520 | CyberEthics (DICO,WRCO) | 3 |
| CS 4760 | Senior Project | 3 |
| MA 2300 | Statistics I (QRCO) | 3 |
| MA 2450 | Mathematical Reasoning | 4 |
| Science course with laboratory (not BIDI/CHDI/ESDI/MTDI/PHDI) | | 4 |
| Major Electives | | |
| Complete two courses from the following: | | 6-7 |
| CS 2900 | Digital and Analog Circuits | |
| CS 2901 | Materials, Design and Fabrication | |
| CS 2905 | PLC Programming | |
| CS 3015 | Mobile Application Development | |
| CS 3020 | Web Programming | |
| CS 3030 | | |
| CS 3240 | Data Communication and Computer Networks | |
| CS 3420 | Introduction to Cybersecurity | |
| CS 3500 | Introduction to Artificial Intelligence | |
| CS 3650 | Big Data Administration and Analysis | |
| CS 3820 | Human-Computer Interaction | |
| CS 4230 | System Administration | |
| CS 4400 | Computer Networks and Protocols | |
| CS 4420 | Computer Security | |
| CS 4920 | Computer Science Internship (maximum of three credits) | |
| Calculus | | |
| MA 2550 & MA 2560 | Calculus I (QRCO) and Calculus II (QRCO) | 8 |

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|--|------------------------------|------------|
| General Education (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/) | | |
| EN 1400 | Composition | 4 |
| IS 1115 | Tackling a Wicked Problem | 4 |
| CTDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#CTDI) | Creative Thought Direction | 3-4 |
| PPDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#PPDI) | Past and Present Direction | 3-4 |
| SIDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SIDI) | Scientific Inquiry Direction | 3-4 |
| SSDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SSDI) | Self and Society Direction | 3-4 |
| Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SIDI, SSDI) (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/) ¹ | | 4-8 |
| GACO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#GACO) | Global Awareness Connection | 3-4 |
| WECO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#WECO) | Wellness Connection | 3-4 |
| Electives | | 15-18 |
| Total Credits | | 120 |

¹ Directions should total 20 credits (unless the major has a waiver for a specific Direction).

Recommended Course Sequence

Check all course descriptions for prerequisites before planning course schedule. Course sequence is suggested but not required.

To complete the bachelor's degree in 4 years, you must successfully complete a minimum of 15 credits each semester or have a plan to make up credits over the course of the 4 years. For example, if you take 14 credits one semester, you need to take 16 credits in another semester. Credits completed must count toward your program requirements (major, option, minor, certificate, general education or free electives).

| Course | Title | Credits |
|--|-------------------------------|---------|
| Year One | | |
| EN 1400 | Composition | 4 |
| IS 1115 | Tackling a Wicked Problem | 4 |
| CS 2010 | Computing Fundamentals (TECO) | 3 |
| CS 2370 | Introduction to Programming | 4 |
| Complete two-semester Calculus Sequence: | | |

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| MA 2550 & MA 2560 | Calculus I (QRCO) and Calculus II (QRCO) | 8 |
| CTDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#CTDI) | Creative Thought Direction | 3-4 |
| PPDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#PPDI) | Past and Present Direction | 3-4 |
| Elective | | 0-2 |

Credits 29-33

Year Two

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| CS 2220 | Computer Hardware | 3 |
| CS 2381 | Data Structures and Intermediate Programming | 4 |
| CS 2470 | Systems Programming in C/C++ | 2 |
| CS 3221 | Algorithm Analysis | 4 |
| CS 3600 | Database Management Systems & Security | 4 |
| MA 2450 | Mathematical Reasoning | 4 |
| MA 2300 | Statistics I (QRCO) | 3 |
| SIDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SIDI) | Scientific Inquiry Direction | 3-4 |
| SSDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SSDI) | Self and Society Direction | 3-4 |

Credits 30-32

Year Three

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|--|--------------------------------------|-----|
| CS 3720 | Systems Analysis and Design | 3 |
| CS 3780 | Introduction to Computational Theory | 3 |
| Science course with laboratory (not BIDI/CHDI/ESDI/MTDI/PHDI) | | 4 |
| Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SIDI, SSDI) (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/) ¹ | | 4-8 |
| GACO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#GACO) | Global Awareness Connection | 3-4 |
| WECO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#WECO) | Wellness Connection | 3-4 |
| Electives | | 6-8 |

Credits 26-34

Year Four

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|--|--------------------------------|-----|
| CS 4140 | Software Engineering | 3 |
| CS 4250 | Computer Architecture | 3 |
| CS 4310 | Operating Systems | 3 |
| CS 4520 | CyberEthics (DICO,WRCO) | 3 |
| CS 4760 | Senior Project | 3 |
| Complete two Major Electives from the following: | | 6-7 |
| CS 3015 | Mobile Application Development | |
| CS 3020 | Web Programming | |

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| CS 3240 | Data Communication and Computer Networks | |
| CS 3420 | Introduction to Cybersecurity | |
| CS 3500 | Introduction to Artificial Intelligence | |
| CS 3820 | Human-Computer Interaction | |
| CS 4230 | System Administration | |
| CS 4400 | Computer Networks and Protocols | |
| CS 4420 | Computer Security | |
| CS 4920 | Computer Science Internship | |
| Electives | | 7-10 |
| Credits | | 28-32 |
| Total Credits | | 120 |

¹ Directions should total 20 credits (unless the major has a waiver for a specific Direction).

Learning Outcomes

- The ability to develop applications to solve small and large problems, both independently and as part of a team.
- An understanding of how the running time of algorithms is measured and the theoretical limitations of computing.
- An understanding of computer instruction-set architecture and experience with hardware-focused programming.
- The ability to communicate technical information to a wide range of audiences.
- An understanding of professional, ethical, and security issues and responsibilities that arise with modern socio-technical systems.

Career Pathways

Computers are used in virtually every industry which requires employees who specialize in computer science. Computer science is not simply a study of how to use computers and various software. Although all computer scientists are proficient in using computers with various operating systems and a variety of software, they have a larger goal: they design and construct or configure computer hardware and software to be used by others. With the need for computers in virtually every industry, the need for employees who specialize in computer science and can incorporate new technologies is ever increasing.

For more information, visit the Career Services site.

Here is a link to A guide for women in STEM created by DDS (Discover Data Science), including STEM scholarship opportunities for women.

Sample Job Titles:

- Computer Programmer
- Computer Systems Manager
- Control Engineer
- Database Administrator
- Manager, Management Information Systems
- Network Administrator
- Quality Assurance Specialist
- Robot Software Engineer
- Robot System Engineer
- Software Designer

- Software Developer
- Software Engineer
- System Analyst
- Web Application Developer
- Technical Writer
- Web Designer

Useful Skills for Jobs in Computing Disciplines:

- Ability to analyze cause and effects
- Ability to think logically and critically
- Strong communication skills
- Mathematical background