Applying to Computer Science Degree Programs
March, 1 2018 Deadline

Tim Richards
Undergraduate Program Director

Outline

People

Criteria

Deadlines

Application

Review

Decisions

Notification

Advising

Registration/Overrides

Re-Application

People You Should Know

Darlene Fahey
Undergraduate Program Manager

Tara LaFlamme
Undergraduate Program Assistant

Greg Boisseau
CICS Exploratory Track Advisor

Bill Verts
Peer Advising (ACE) Manager
https://www.cics.umass.edu/ugrad-education/ace-cs-ug-advising-center

Computer Science Community

991 Majors

64 Minors

225+ Applications a Year

250+ Graduates a Year (Feb, May, Sep)

510 Graduate Students

60 Faculty

Undergraduate Programs

Computer Science Undergraduate Programs

Bachelor of Science in CS

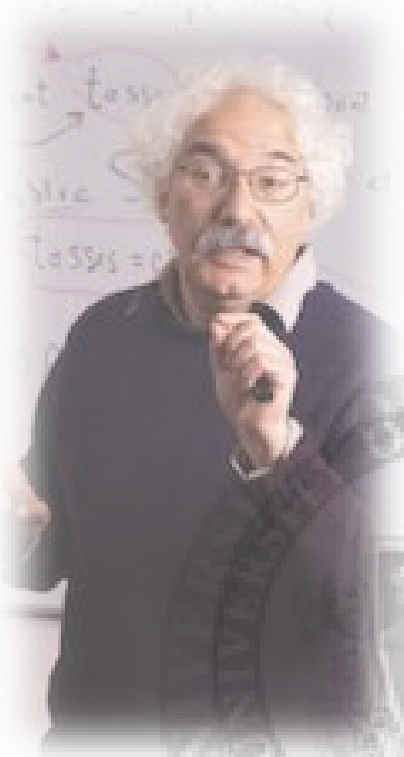
Bachelor of Arts in CS

Minor in Computer Science

Informatics Major

Started in BDIC (2014)

Talk to Michelle Trim
mtrim@cs.umass.edu



Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BS)

Comprehensive training in Computer Science

Goals

Graduate Study in CS

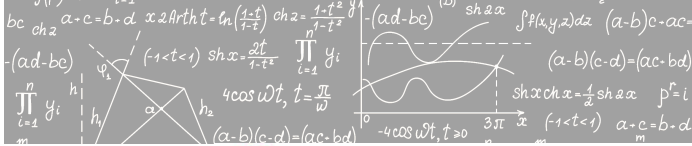
Most Technical Entry-Level Positions in Industry

Course Requirements

14 Computer Science

4 Math

2 Majors-Level Lab Science



Math and Science Details

Math

- Two semesters of engineering-level calculus (M131, M132)
- Linear algebra (M325)
- Multivariate calculus (M233) (or STAT 515)

Science

- Two majors level lab science

CHEM 111 (or 121), CHEM 112 (or 122)

PHYSICS 151 (or 181), PHYSICS 152 (or 182)

GEOLOGY 101/lab (or 103/131, 105/131)

Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science (BA)

Computing Focused Degree in Computer Science

Goals

To apply sophisticated computing techniques to a second discipline.

Course Requirements

10 Computer Science

3 Math

Foreign Language

4-course Concentration

Other Requirements

Writing

Junior Year Writing (COMPSCI 305)

Foreign Language

BA Only

General Education

UMass Requirements

Integrative Experience (COMPSCI 320 or 326)

Minor in Computer Science

Goals

Add CS background to your primary discipline.

Course Requirements

2 entry-level computer science (COMPSCI 121, 187)

2 200-level computer science (COMPSCI 220, 230, 240, 250)

1 200-level or above computer science

Applying to the Computer Science Major

Two Paths into the Major

Admissions Office

By Application

About 25% of CS majors join us through our application process.

You can find out much of this information here:
https://www.cics.umass.edu/ugrad-education/major-change-cs

Submitting an Application

You must submit an application to be considered!

Where is the application and when do I apply?

https://www.cics.umass.edu/ugrad-education/major-change-cs

After Fall add/drop ends (~ Sep 19 - Oct 1)
After Spring add/drop ends (~ Feb 6 - Mar 1)

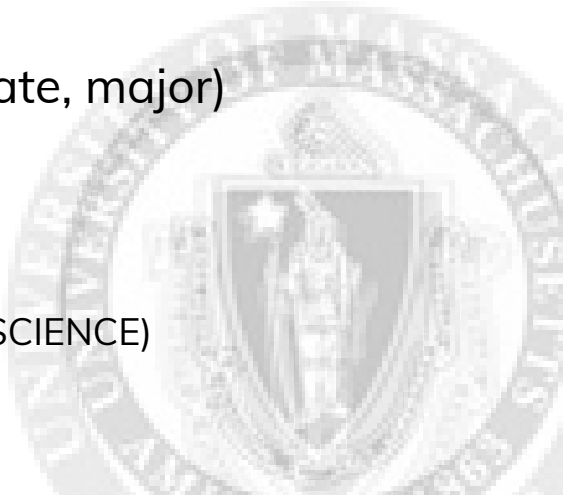
What is on the application?

General information (name, email, GPA, spire id, grad date, major)

Which major program you applying to (BS, BA)

Which CS courses you have completed already

CS Predictor courses, CS upper-level, Other courses (e.g., MATH, SCIENCE)



Admittance to CS / Receiving a Contract

After submitting an application there are 3 possibilities

1. **You are admitted directly into the major**
   You have satisfied CS predictor courses and did well.
   Typically requires contract on upper-level courses.

2. **You receive a contract**
   You receive a contract indicating courses and grades you must achieve.
   You are considered an Applicant on Contract (AOC)
   You are given priority into CS courses to satisfy the contract

3. **You are denied**

Application Process

When should I apply?

You must be enrolled in at least CS 187 and MATH 131

You must apply before becoming a senior

Determined by total credit hours

Application Deadlines:

March 1, 2018 (for Fall 2018)

October 1, 2018 (for Spring 2019)

Application Process Communication

Where do I send my application?

EMAIL PDF to CSApply@cs.umass.edu (11:59pm deadline)

PAPER FORM to CS Main Office (5:00 pm deadline)

Email will be sent within 1 week to confirm receipt of application.

Contact CSApply@cs.umass.edu if confirmation is not received.

Application Repeats

What happens if I do not satisfy my contract?

You must reapply

Up to 3 **consecutive** applications are allowed

If you are on contract #2 or #3, **have a plan B**!

You need to do all you can to make your **best case** in your **first attempt** at the CS predictor courses:

CS **121**, **187** & MATH **131**, **132**

Making Your Case

Demonstrate Proficiency in Predictor Courses

>= B in MATH 131/132

>= B in COMPSCI 121/187

>= B in 200-level CS course (if necessary)

Good Overall Performance (in your contract term)

>= C in all other courses

Must be at UMass - total of at least 12 credits

No P/F on predictor courses, major requirements,
or course counted in the the 12 contract credits.

Overall GPA >= 3.0

Applicant Contracts

Plan to Make Your Case

Apply, register, and request overrides once form opens!

If Your Situation Changes

Unable to take contract courses?

Contact upd@cs.umass.edu immediately!

Failure to do so may violate your contract
and use up an application!

Tips, Advice, and Strategies

CS Application != CS Major

- It gives you priority to contract courses only.
- Be prompt with registration

More CS Courses != BETTER

- Focus on contract courses
- Do not overload with extra courses
- Even if you are behind in CS!

Do NOT go too far into CS before applying

- This is risky if you do not meet your contract!
- We consider your entire cumulative transcript

Tips, Advice, and Strategies

If your performance is well below your contract requirements

You will NOT be given seats the following semester.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST 1863
COLLEGE OF INFORMATION AND COMPUTER SCIENCES

Good Luck!

ANY
QUESTIONS
?