

Computer Science

The computer science program offers a foundation in the fundamentals of computer science, a solid understanding of the object-oriented paradigm, software development processes and software engineering. Whether the goal of a student is graduate school or a job in business, the entertainment industry or government, the computer science major, which emphasizes the theory and application of new computer technologies, provides the background needed to be successful.

By choosing a major in computer science, students develop expertise in systems analysis, software development, networking and wireless technologies, artificial intelligence, computer graphics and animation or computer music.

A Distinctive Program

While the fundamentals of computer science are important in the curriculum, the major places a particular emphasis on software development and software engineering, and so the practical implementation of core concepts is vital to students' attaining a firm understanding. Courses are constructed to be strongly project-oriented. Also provided are research opportunities for students, and currently a number of them have given talks on their work at national and international professional meetings, won awards and published in professional journals. This combination of research with practical implementation experience gives Stetson's computer science students a competitive advantage when they apply to graduate schools or look for jobs. Recent student work has included augmented reality for the iPhone, fuzzy logic for improving network performance, automated music composition employing memetic algorithms, design of optimal keyboard interfaces for mobile devices to optimize speed and accuracy, and the development and implementation of algorithms for covert VoIP communication.

Academics and Research

Independent research

All students in the department are required to complete a year-long research sequence for the senior project. This research is tailored to the interests and strengths of the individual student. A faculty adviser works individually with students during their senior research year, providing guidance and support as needed.

Facilities and opportunities

The department has several teaching labs with a mixture of Microsoft Windows, Linux and Apple Mac OS X systems, as well as rack-mounted servers for use in student research, and both Android and iOS-based smart phones and tablets. Students also have 24/7 access to two well-equipped labs in Elizabeth Hall rooms 208 and 210.

Preparation for graduate study

Fast Facts

Number of faculty: 8

Can you major in this program? Yes

Can you minor in this program? Yes

Emphasis within the major: software development, software engineering, networking, computer graphics and animation, artificial intelligence

Popular second majors: digital arts, mathematics, physics

Program website:

<http://www2.stetson.edu/mathcs>

This program combines research with practical implementation experience.

Students have done original research and developed a number of exciting projects, giving them a competitive edge when they apply to graduate schools or look for jobs. Past student work may be reviewed at the department's [student research](#) page.

Awards and Recognition

Distinguished faculty

The faculty has obtained a Stetson Hand award for Research and Society for Modeling and Simulation International and an Outstanding Service award for outstanding and dedicated technical contributions and services to the modeling and computer simulation discipline.

Grant-funded research

Computer science students have been successful in obtaining Research Experience for Undergraduates grants at prestigious universities like the University of California and University of Texas. They have also been successful at obtaining Stetson Undergraduate Research Experience grants.

Undergraduate awards and honors

Students can receive multiple awards including; Ashcraft Award for outstanding junior, Wunnenberg award for outstanding students in graphics, Medlin award for outstanding senior research, Kresge money for senior research, dean's fund for student travel, Sullivan award and Etter McTeer award.

Beyond the Classroom

Internships

Students may take an internship course for credit, either during the regular semester or during the summer. Students have also participated in special industry software development projects in recent years. Our students have interned at AT&T, Convergys, Disney Multimedia, Florida Hospital, Seagate, StrombergCarlson and Google.

After Stetson

Diverse careers

Graduates have studied at Clemson University, Cornell University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Florida State University, University of Minnesota and others. Some have pursued graduate degrees in law and medicine. Alumni work at companies such as Google, Oracle, AMD, Harris Corp., IBM, Lockheed-Martin, Microsoft, AT&T and RIM. Job titles include systems analyst, software developer, software engineer, network analyst, computer game developer, project manager and chief executive officer.

More Information



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