Computer Science (BA/BS)

As a computer science major, you'll study the computer as a machine—both concrete and abstract—and as a powerful tool for solving problems and exploring in a wide variety of areas. Through your computer science courses, you will learn how to design, analyze, and implement algorithms and programs, computer systems, and programming languages. You will have the opportunity to take classes in topics such as data science, artificial intelligence, networks and security, graphics and visualization, and more. From research and web design to data mining and software engineering, students in this field are on the cutting edge of prospective careers.

As computer science becomes increasingly intrinsic to countless aspects of daily life, the spectrum of career opportunities in this field continues to expand. By the time you graduate with a degree in computer science, you'll be a computational thinker prepared to flourish in any profession you choose.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate technical competency in the main areas of computer science, including theoretical foundations, computer systems, programming languages, and software development.
- Draw on a broad knowledge of computer science to design, implement, and test software solutions to significant problems in a variety of areas.
- Understand the broad applicability and impacts of computing; be proficient in one or more subareas of computer science or applied computer science.
- Adapt and extend fundamental knowledge and skills to new problem domains and emerging technologies.
- Communicate and collaborate with others as part of a project team, and express ideas orally and in writing.
- Recognize professional responsibilities and make informed judgments in computing practice based on ethical principles.

Computer Science Major Requirements

Computer science majors must complete at least 60 credits of CS courses, of which 24, including 12 upper-division credits, must be earned in residence at the University of Oregon. In addition, majors must complete 28 credits in mathematics, 12 credits in the sciences, and 4 credits of technical or business writing. The specific requirements for the CS major fall into five categories: core courses, concentration and elective courses, mathematics, writing, and science.

Computer Science I (CS 210), Computer Science II (CS 211), Computer Science III (CS 212), Elements of Discrete Mathematics I (MATH 231), and Elements of Discrete Mathematics II (MATH 232) must be passed with grades of **B– or better** before students can take the upper-division core courses. Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams for CS 210, CS 211, MATH 251Z, MATH 252Z, and MATH 253Z are acceptable with a mark of P*.

Courses used to fulfill the major requirements must be taken for a letter grade and passed with a grade of C- or better, unless otherwise noted with * footnote.

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses: Lower Division		
CS 210–212	Computer Science I-III	12
MATH 231–232	Elements of Discrete Mathematics I-II	8
Core Courses: Upper Division		
CS 313	Intermediate Data Structures	4
CS 314	Computer Organization	4
CS 315	Intermediate Algorithms	4
CS 330	C/C++ and Unix	4
CS 415	Operating Systems	4
CS 422	Software Methodology I	4
CS 425	Principles of Programming Languages	4
Core Courses: Mathematics		
MATH 251Z	Differential Calculus	4
or MATH 246	Calculus for the Biological Sciences I	
MATH 252Z	Integral Calculus	4
or MATH 247	Calculus for the Biological Sciences II	
MATH 341	Elementary Linear Algebra	4
MATH 343	Statistical Models and Methods	4
or MATH 345M	Probability and Statistics for Data Science	
Core Courses: Ethics *		
PHIL 223	Data Ethics	4
or PHIL 123	AI, Society, and Philosophy	
Core Courses: Science *		
Select 12 credits from one the following science areas: [1]		12
Biology [2,3]		
CH 150Z	Preparatory Chemistry	
or CH 113	Sustainability and the Science Behind It	
or CH 221Z	General Chemistry I	
or CH 221HZ	General Chemistry I	
BI 221Z	Principles of Biology: Cells	
BI 222Z	Principles of Biology: Organisms	
or BI 223Z	Principles of Biology: Ecology and Evolution	
Chemistry [3]		
CH 221Z & CH 222Z & CH 223Z	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II and General Chemistry III	
or CH 221HZ & CH 222HZ & CH 223HZ	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II and General Chemistry III	
Earth Sciences		
ERTH 201	Dynamic Planet Earth	
ERTH 202	Earth's Surface and Environment	
ERTH 203	History of Life	
Geography		
GEOG 141	The Natural Environment	
Select two of the following:		
GEOG 321	Climatology	

GEOG 322	Geomorphology	
GEOG 323	Biogeography	
Physics [3,4]		
PHYS 201	General Physics	
or PHYS 251	Foundations of Physics I	
PHYS 202	General Physics	
or PHYS 252	Foundations of Physics I	
PHYS 203	General Physics	
or PHYS 253	Foundations of Physics I	
Psychology		
PSY 201Z	Introduction to Psychology I	
Select two of the following:		
PSY 301	Scientific Thinking in Psychology	
PSY 304	Biopsychology	
PSY 305	Cognition	
PSY 348	Music and the Brain	
Core Course: Writing *		
WR 320	Scientific and Technical Writing	4
or WR 321	Business Communications	
or HC 301H	Research and Writing: [Topic]	
Electives: Upper Division		
Upper-division CS courses in student's chosen concentration or courses numbered 410 or higher [5]		12
Upper-division CS courses in student's chosen concentration, honors thesis, capstone project, or other upper-division courses [*,5,6]		8
Upper-division mathematics or theoretical computer science course [*,7]		4
Total Credits		**108**

* Courses used to fulfill this requirement must be taken for a letter grade of C- or better or mark of Pass (P or P*).

1 To support interdisciplinary study, students are encouraged to complete a minor (typically 24–32 credits) or major in a computing-related field. Students who complete a minor (other than computer information technology or mathematics) or another major (including mathematics) in a computing-related field may, with the approval of the Undergraduate Education Committee, replace the CS laboratory science requirement with the completed minor or major.

2 BI 221Z-223Z are acceptable.

3 Students are encouraged to complete the accompanying lab courses.

4 Physics is recommended for networks concentration students.

5 If Experimental Course: [Topic] (CS 410) courses are applied, they must have different topic subtitles to satisfy this requirement.

6 A maximum of 8 credits in upper-division courses numbered less than 410, multi-listed with CS course (DSCI 372M), or DSCI 311. CS courses numbered 400–409 may be taken for a maximum of 4 credits per course number. Special Studies: [Topic] (CS 399), Seminar: [Topic] (CS 407), and Experimental Course: [Topic] (CS 410) courses must have different topic subtitles to satisfy this requirement. CS 399 and CS 410 courses must have a prerequisite of CS 313 and have regular weekly class meetings and homework assignments.

7 The mathematics elective is selected from upper-division mathematics courses with a prerequisite of Integral Calculus (MATH 252Z) or higher, or from theoretical computer science courses. A list of theoretical computer science courses is available in the computer science office or the department website.

Major Progress Review and Major in Good Standing

Each major must meet with a computer science advisor and file the Major Progress Review form while taking Intermediate Data Structures (CS 313) or Computer Organization (CS 314). Mathematics and CS core courses and at least 12 credits of CS upper division elective courses numbered 410 or higher must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of C– or better. Other courses used to satisfy the major requirements may be taken for letter grades or pass/no pass. Grades of C– or better or P must be earned in these courses. At least 12 of the CS upper-division credits applied to the degree must be taken in residence at the university.

Concentrations

Concentrations, or focus areas, highlight areas of specialization within the department and guide student elective choices. Each concentration has an approved list of CS courses, available from the Computer Science office or the department website. Concentrations may also include recommended science or mathematics courses or a recommended minor in another field.

AI and Machine Learning Concentration

The artificial intelligence and machine learning concentration prepares students to develop computational solutions to problems that require emerging problem solving techniques, often involving inference from large collections of noisy data. Course work focuses on neural and statistical approaches to inference as well as search.

Computer Networks Concentration

The Computer Networks concentration prepares students for careers as network systems administrators, network protocol developer-programmers, or network security specialists in a wide range of environments, including educational institutions, business enterprises, and government agencies, as well as for advanced graduate studies and research in the field of computer networks. Course work encompasses most aspects of network theory and practice.

High Performance Computing/Computational Science Concentration

The High Performance Computing/Computational science concentration prepares students to apply computational and mathematical techniques to the analysis and management of scientific data. Course work in this concentration combines depth in applied and formal aspects of Computer Science.

Security Concentration

The Security concentration provides a foundation in topics and concepts relating to the security of computer systems and networks. It prepares students to work as security analysts and provides a highly desirable skill set for all employers, ranging from software engineers to administrators, in both the private and government sectors. It also provides a foundation for further graduate study and research in security. Course work encompasses a strong understanding of computer systems and networks and their security, and can be tailored to a more theoretical or more applied focus.

Software Development Concentration

The Software Development concentration prepares students for careers in software engineering, software project management, software quality assurance, and other areas involving the creation of software. Course work focuses on solving problems related to the cost of development as well as the quality of the software delivered in complex software projects.

Honors Program in Computer Science

Students with a GPA of 3.50 or higher in computer science and a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher, or a GPA of 3.75 or higher in computer science and a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher, are encouraged to apply to the department honors program after completing Intermediate Data Structures (CS 313), Computer Organization (CS 314), Intermediate Algorithms (CS 315), and C/C++ and Unix (CS 330). The application form is available in the department office. To graduate with departmental honors, a student must write and present a thesis under the supervision of a faculty member. Honors students will take 4 credits of CS 403 Thesis and up to 4 credits of CS 401 Research to satisfy this requirement.

Computer Science Accelerated Master's Program

Computer Science undergraduate majors at the UO have the opportunity to graduate with B.S. and M.S. Computer Science degrees in a five-year program. See Computer Science Graduate Program (MS) (https://catalog.uoregon.edu/arts-sciences/school-computer-data-sciences/computer-science/ms-computer-science/#acceleratedmasterstext).

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them. Additional information may be found at the department website *(*https://cs.uoregon.edu*).*

Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
CS 122	Introduction to Programming and Problem Solving (recommended)	4	
MATH 112Z	Precalculus II: Trigonometry	4	
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
Core-education course in arts and letters		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
CS 210	Computer Science I	4	
MATH 251Z or MATH 246	Differential Calculus or Calculus for the Biological Sciences I	4	
WR 122Z or WR 123	Composition II or College Composition III	4	
Core-education course in social science		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
CS 211	Computer Science II	4	
MATH 252Z or MATH 247	Integral Calculus or Calculus for the Biological Sciences II	4	
Core-education course in arts and letters		4	
Core-education course in social science		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Second Year			
Fall			
CS 212	Computer Science III	4	
MATH 231	Elements of Discrete Mathematics I	4	
First course of additional science sequence		4	
Core-education course in social science that also satisfies a cultural literacy requirement		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
CS 314	Computer Organization	4	
MATH 232	Elements of Discrete Mathematics II	4	
Second course of additional science sequence		4	
Core-education course in arts & letters		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
CS 322 or WR 320 or WR 321 or HC 301H	Introduction to Software Engineering or Scientific and Technical Writing or Business Communications or Research and Writing: [Topic]	4	
MATH 253Z or MATH 341 or MATH 343 or MATH 425 or MATH 345M	Calculus: Sequences and Series or Elementary Linear Algebra or Statistical Models and Methods or Statistical Methods I or Probability and Statistics for Data Science	4	
Third course of additional science sequence		4	
Core-education course in arts & letters that also satisfies a cultural literacy requirement		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Third Year			
Fall			
CS 313	Intermediate Data Structures	4	

MATH 253Z or MATH 341 or MATH 343 or MATH 425 or MATH 345	Calculus: Sequences and Series or Elementary Linear Algebra or Statistical Models and Methods or Statistical Methods I or Probability and Statistics for Data Science	4
WR 320 or WR 321 or HC 301H or CS 322	Scientific and Technical Writing or Business Communications or Research and Writing: [Topic] or Introduction to Software Engineering	4
First term of second-language sequence		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
CS 315	Intermediate Algorithms	4
CS 330	C/C++ and Unix	4
Upper-division mathematics elective course		4
Second term of second-language sequence		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
CS 415	Operating Systems	4
Upper-division elective course with CS subject code		4
PHIL 223	Data Ethics	4
Third term of second-language sequence		4
	Credits	**16**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
CS 425	Principles of Programming Languages	4
Upper-division elective course (410-499) with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
Winter		
CS 422	Software Methodology I	4
Upper-division elective course (410-499) with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
Spring		
Upper-division elective course with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course (410-499) with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**180**

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
First Year		
Fall		
CS 122	Introduction to Programming and Problem Solving (recommended)	4
MATH 112Z	Precalculus II: Trigonometry	4
WR 121Z	Composition I	4
Core-education course in arts and letters		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
CS 210	Computer Science I	4
MATH 251Z or MATH 246	Differential Calculus or Calculus for the Biological Sciences I	4
WR 122Z or WR 123	Composition II or College Composition III	4
Core-education course in social science		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
CS 211	Computer Science II	4
MATH 252Z or MATH 247	Integral Calculus or Calculus for the Biological Sciences II	4
Core-education course in arts and letters		4
Core-education course in social science		4
	Credits	**16**
Second Year		
Fall		
CS 212	Computer Science III	4
MATH 231	Elements of Discrete Mathematics I	4
First course of additional science sequence		4
Core-education course in social science that also satisfies a cultural literacy requirement		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
CS 314	Computer Organization	4
MATH 232	Elements of Discrete Mathematics II	4
Second course of additional science sequence		4
Core-education course in arts & letters		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
CS 322 or WR 320 or WR 321 or HC 301H	Introduction to Software Engineering or Scientific and Technical Writing or Business Communications or Research and Writing: [Topic]	4

MATH 253Z or MATH 341 or MATH 343 or MATH 425 or MATH 345M	Calculus: Sequences and Series or Elementary Linear Algebra or Statistical Models and Methods or Statistical Methods I or Probability and Statistics for Data Science	4
Third course of additional science sequence		4
Core-education course in arts & letters that also satisfies a cultural literacy requirement		4
	Credits	**16**

Third Year

Fall

CS 313	Intermediate Data Structures	4
MATH 253Z or MATH 341 or MATH 343 or MATH 425 or MATH 345M	Calculus: Sequences and Series or Elementary Linear Algebra or Statistical Models and Methods or Statistical Methods I or Probability and Statistics for Data Science	4
WR 320 or WR 321 or HC 301H or CS 322	Scientific and Technical Writing or Business Communications or Research and Writing: [Topic] or Introduction to Software Engineering	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**16**

Winter

CS 315	Intermediate Algorithms	4
CS 330	C/C++ and Unix	4
Upper-division mathematics elective course		4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**16**

Spring

CS 415	Operating Systems	4
Upper-division elective course with CS subject code		4
PHIL 223	Data Ethics	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**16**

Fourth Year

Fall

CS 425	Principles of Programming Languages	4
Upper-division elective course (410-499) with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course		4
	Credits	**12**

Winter

CS 422	Software Methodology I	4
Upper-division elective course (410-499) with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course		4
	Credits	**12**

Spring

Upper-division elective course with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course (410-499) with CS subject code		4
Upper-division elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**180**