Computer Science

Is it for you?
(No Previous Experience Necessary)

Five Reasons to Major in Computing

1. Computing drives innovation in the sciences (the human genome project, AIDS vaccine research, environmental monitoring and protection just to mention a few).

2. Computing jobs are among the highest paid, the highest in demand, and have the highest job satisfaction.

3. A computing major will provide you with a foundational knowledge of problem solving and logical thinking that will be helpful to you no matter what you choose to do in life.

4. Computer jobs are not solitary and boring. Computing professionals hardly ever work alone. In today’s world, building software requires the coordinated efforts of many people with a wide variety of skills.

5. Computing is a field where it is almost impossible to predict what will happen next. This is why we cannot even begin to imagine all the ways that you can make a contribution to the field and it can make your life’s work exciting and real.

Drake Computer Science
Innovative Courses

CS 195 iPhone App Development
A Drake University Technology Grant provides a classroom set of iPod Touch devices for exploration into smartphone application development.

CS/BIO 116 Bioinformatics
The analysis of biological systems through the use of computational methods. Analyzing these systems often involves creating electronic databases of biological structures (protein sequences, genomes, DNA, etc.) and developing algorithms to analyze the data.

CS 147 Computer Graphics
Introduction to the drawing methods, geometrical transforms, and illumination models that are fundamental to computer graphics programming. The course is designed to be hands on in which students will implement many of the algorithms discussed in class.

CS 172 Digital Computer Organization
Exploration of how computers are constructed. Topics include the components of modern computer organization, multi-core CPU design, cloud computing.

Drake graduates have to say about studying computer science (over)
Bethany Funk  
Computer Science and Information Systems Major

“I would encourage any student who wants to apply their math skills to real-world experience to take the introductory CS 65 class.

“During my time at Drake, I was able to take coursework in computer graphics and multiple computer languages. I also completed a Capstone project that modeled the female human brain in three dimensions. I would recommend the CS major to anyone who is looking for a challenging and rewarding career.”

~Bethany Funk

Jonathan Flory  
Computer Science and Music Major

“I believe the largest reason why Drake is a great school to study computer science is because of the faculty. They genuinely care about you as a person, and will always help you with anything, even if it is for a class that they aren’t teaching themselves.

“The timing for getting a computer science degree at Drake couldn’t be better than now.”

~Jonathan Flory

Zac Oler  
Computer Science, Mathematics, and Physics Major

“The other thing the computer science department has given me was a chance to participate in some real world scientific research.

“All in all, Drake University, and especially the Computer Science department, have given me many wonderful opportunities and experiences that have prepared me for the next step in life.”

~Zac Oler

Thomas Marrinan  
Computer Science and Graphic Design Major

“The professors at Drake execute the perfect balance of teacher, tutor, advisor, and mentor. All of my computer science professors utilize class time to make sure each and every student understands all of the concepts that are being taught, but they are also available outside of class as a one-on-one tutor if someone missed a day or is just struggling with one particular topic.

“All in all, Drake University, and especially the Computer Science department, have given me many wonderful opportunities and experiences that have prepared me for the next step in life.”

~Thomas Marrinan

CS 65 Introduction to Computer Science I
An introduction to the field of computer science is provided emphasizing problem solving using a high-level programming language. Algorithms, basic data representation, language control structures, debugging, and program verification will be discussed. Prerequisites: Four years of high school math or Math 20 (College Algebra)

Questions?
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