Why Computer Science?

- A transforming technology that empowers almost everything we do.
- Rewarding and challenging opportunities for a wide range of people.
- A driving force for innovation in science, engineering, business, entertainment and education.
- A reliably strong job market and careers that consistently rank among the highest paid and with high job satisfaction.
- A strong foundation in problem solving and logical thinking is great preparation for a wide variety of careers in or out of the computing field.
- An opportunity to exercise your creative side: explore the potential of animation and gaming, build virtual worlds, think outside the box, work on solutions and technologies that have not even been dreamt of yet.
- A highly collaborative field, with opportunities to join a wide range of companies and work on an incredible variety of problems.

Join us in CS at Virginia Tech to 'invent the future' and make it yours!

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Department Head

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Research

Research is a cornerstone of our department. The advantage for students is enormous both in the classroom and the lab. As professors push the state-of-the-art in this rapidly changing discipline, they bring discoveries back to the classroom. In addition, students are encouraged to participate in the scholarly activities of the department through undergraduate research opportunities. Research is diverse and interdisciplinary initiatives are common, with students and faculty often working with researchers from other departments at Virginia Tech and from around the globe. The CS Department was selected in 2008 as a “VT Exemplary Department” for its interdisciplinary research.

Education

The undergraduate program in Computer Science at Virginia Tech is both challenging and rewarding. The objective of the program is to provide majors with a balance of breadth and depth of knowledge in computer science, which allows the choice between graduate school or a professional career. CS@VT helps its graduates to excel in either environment. Through undergraduate courses, students master the theoretical and practical foundations of computer science, and apply that foundation by choosing from a wide range of advanced topics and application areas including application areas including Bioinformatics, Data Mining and Analytics, High Performance Computing, Human Computer Interaction, Mobile Computing, Security and Software Engineering.

With the help of corporate partners in our Computer Science Resources Consortium (CSRC), our students interact with some of the best companies in the world; we hold two job fairs each year just for computer science students.

Student organizations such as the Association for Computing Machinery, the Association for Women in Computing, CS Community Service Club, VT Gaming Project, and the Mobile Application Development group provide a venue for students to build friendships, learn from peers and give back to the community.

Jobs

More than 90% of our undergraduate students have a job before they graduate. Many co-op and internship opportunities are available, which allow students to gain valuable real-world experience during their undergraduate studies.

Financial Support

Students can take advantage of many financial support opportunities, including scholarships available to entering freshmen and upper-classmen in engineering, various department scholarships, co-ops, internships, and summer positions.

Rankings and Reputation

CS is a member of Virginia Tech’s College of Engineering, which is ranked 15th in the top 20 U.S. engineering schools. Our graduates are accepted in nationally competitive graduate programs and are aggressively recruited by companies across the nation. In September 2010, the Wall Street Journal published a survey of recruiters, who ranked individual programs and universities based on “whose bachelor degree graduates were the best-trained and educated, and best able to succeed once hired.” CS@VT ranked fifth overall. CS@VT is also ranked in the top 30 programs in CS PhD production, according to the NSF.

Opportunity@CS

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