MASTER OF SCIENCE IN THE FIELD OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students in the master of science program in computer science learn excellent skills at the forefront of computing, get individualized attention from world-class faculty, and benefit from evening classes that accommodate the schedules of those who are working professionals. Students may choose a thesis or non-thesis option.

Our graduate students choose from among numerous focus areas, including: Algorithms and Theory; Computer Architecture, Networks, Parallel and Distributed Computing; Computer Security and Information Assurance; Database and Information Retrieval Systems; Machine Intelligence and Cognition; Multimedia, Animation, Graphics and User Interface; and Software Engineering and Systems.

Visit the program website (http://www.cs.seas.gwu.edu/master-science-computer-science) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines:
- Fall – January 15
- Spring – September 1
- Summer – March 1 (domestic applicants)

Standardized test scores: The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required for all applicants (Institution code 5246). Average scores for our Fall 2014 incoming class were: 161 (Q), 148 (V), and 3 (W).

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction. Minimum scores:
- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 6.0 with no individual score below 5.0; applicants requesting funding consideration must have an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual score below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 550 on paper-based or 80 on Internet-based; applicants requesting funding consideration must have 600 on paper-based; or 100 on Internet-based; or
- PTE Academic: 53; applicants requesting funding consideration must have 68.

Applicants with lower test scores may qualify for our full-time Applied English Studies program.

Recommendation: Two (2) recommendation required. If possible, one recommendation should be from your advisor at the institution from which you earned your highest degree.

Prior academic records: Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

Statement of purpose: In an essay of 250 to 500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study at The George Washington University; describe your academic objectives, research interests, and career plans; and discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned.

Additional requirements: Bachelor’s degree with a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 hours of coursework; two courses in mathematics beyond pre-calculus; one year of science with laboratory; courses in computer science using a structured language, discrete structures, data structures, and computer architecture.

All applicants should choose an area of focus that most closely matches their interests and note this on the online application. All applicants must submit a resumé or CV.

International applicants only: Please follow this link - https://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-student-application-requirements - to review the International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW, and English language requirements.

For more information on the admission process, please visit the SEAS Frequently Asked Questions page. (http://graduate.seas.gwu.edu/apply/faq)

Contact for questions:
engineering@gwu.edu - 202-994-1802 (phone) - 202-994-1651 (fax)
9:00 – 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: Thesis option—30 credits, including 9 credits in required courses and 15 credits in elective courses, and 6 credits in thesis; non-thesis option—30 credits, including 9 credits in required courses and 21 credits in elective courses.

At least 24 of the 30 credits required for the degree must be taken at the 6000 level or above. As a general rule, any course taken below the 6000 level must be a CSCI course and must be eligible to be taken for graduate credit according to the course description in this Bulletin. Any course below the 6000 level must receive the prior written approval of the student’s faculty advisor.

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSCI 6212</td>
<td>Design and Analysis of Algorithms</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSCI 6221</td>
<td>Advanced Software Paradigms</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CSCI 6461</td>
<td>Computer System Architecture</td>
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**Electives**

Students pursuing the thesis option take 15 credits and students pursuing the non-thesis option take 21 credits in elective computer science (CSCI) courses offered for graduate credit. Unless a student’s admission letter states that they are required to take CSCI 6010 and CSCI 6011, students may take up to 6 of these credits in non-CSCI courses with the prior written approval of their advisor. Students who are required to take CSCI 6010 and CSCI 6011 cannot take any non-CSCI courses as part of their program requirements. Such students are strongly encouraged to take these two courses in their first semester.

**Thesis**

Students pursuing the thesis option take the following:*  

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<tr>
<td>CSCI 6998</td>
<td>Thesis Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSCI 6999</td>
<td>Thesis Research</td>
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* See additional information regarding regulations for the master thesis (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/engineering-applied-science/#thesis).

Dual MS in the field of computer science and MS in the field of cybersecurity in computer science degree:

Students who complete the master of science in the field of computer science or the master of science in the field of cybersecurity in computer science and who subsequently wish