The program is professionally oriented and designed to prepare students for employment in industry or government. Courses emphasize practical concerns as well as the relevant theoretical background. The program will provide appropriate background for diverse tasks such as:

- developing scientific and engineering applications,
- developing system software,
- developing safety or security critical systems,
- solving computationally hard problems, and
- developing distributed applications.

While not intended as preparation for subsequent entrance to a Ph.D. program, this goal is not precluded. Once the specific course requirements are met, appropriate selection of electives will enable individual interests to be met within the program.