

**COMPUTER SCIENCE, B.S. (ABINGTON)**

**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus  
**End Campus:** Abington

### Program Description

This program is designed to prepare students for employment as computer scientists in engineering, scientific, industrial, and business environments as software developers, programmers, and systems analysts. While most students will enter the job market directly upon graduation, graduate school in computer science or related areas is also an option. Selection of electives can be tailored for students pursuing this path.

The Computer Science major provides a solid foundation in the areas of systems programming, algorithm design, artificial intelligence, and engineering large software systems using state-of-the-art methodologies and programming languages.

Students may expect to: develop a solid foundation in mathematical studies relevant to computer science; master skills in computer science; enjoy possibilities for internships and part-time employment with local companies; and become problem solvers. These goals are consistent with the goals outlined by the Association of Computing Machinery.

### What is Computer Science?

Computer science is the study of computational methods, including their principles and foundations, their efficient implementation, their analyses, and their practical application in wide-ranging areas. It includes the foundations of software development, computational problem solving, the principles of system software, and the fundamental principles and limits of computing. It is much more than just programming. It includes the mathematical foundations that support analyzing, evaluating, and proving the correctness of computational solutions. It includes specializations such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, data mining, high-performance computing, computer networks, computer graphics, computer vision, quantum computing, and others. It is continually evolving with the development of new and faster forms of computation and with the identification of new problems that require computational solutions.

### You Might Like This Program If...

- You have an interest or aptitude in math.
- You enjoy solving problems and you are good at analytical thinking.
- You are interested in finding more efficient solutions to problems. Remember, computer science is more than just programming.

### Entrance to Major

Entry to the Computer Science General Option requires that the student has earned a C or better in the following courses:

- MATH 140
- MATH 141
- CMPSC 121 or CMPSC 131
- CMPSC 122 or CMPSC 132.

A 2.00 or higher cumulative grade-point average is required.

Entry to the Computer Science Data Science Option requires that the student has earned a C or better in the following courses:

- MATH 140
- MATH 141
- CMPSC 131
- CMPSC 132

A 2.00 or higher cumulative grade-point average is required.

### Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3 credits of GWS courses, 6 credits of GQ courses, and 4 credits of GN courses.

**First-Year Seminar:** Incoming first-year students are required to complete a course with the suffix S, T, or X, or the PSU abbreviation.

### Requirements for the Major

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

### Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 312</td>
<td>Computer Organization and Architecture ²</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 430</td>
<td>Database Design ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 460</td>
<td>Principles of Programming Languages ²</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 462</td>
<td>Data Structures ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 463</td>
<td>Design and Analysis of Algorithms ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 469</td>
<td>Formal Languages with Applications ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 472</td>
<td>Operating System Concepts ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 487W</td>
<td>Software Engineering and Design ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 488</td>
<td>Computer Science Project ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 220</td>
<td>Matrices</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 211</td>
<td>General Physics: Mechanics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 330</td>
<td>Advanced Programming in C++</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 360</td>
<td>Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Technical Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 140</td>
<td>Calculus With Analytic Geometry I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 141</td>
<td>Calculus with Analytic Geometry II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STAT/MATH 318</td>
<td>Elementary Probability</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STAT/ MATH 414</td>
<td>Introduction to Probability Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Computer Science major provides a solid foundation in the areas of systems programming, algorithm design, artificial intelligence, and engineering large software systems using state-of-the-art methodologies and programming languages.
### Requirements for the Option

Select an option

1. Students must earn a 2.5 or higher grade point average in the following courses:
   - For the General Option: CMPSC 221, CMPSC 312, CMPSC 360, CMPSC 430, CMPSC 460, CMPSC 462, CMPSC 463, CMPSC 469, CMPSC 470, CMPSC 472, CMPSC 487W, and CMPSC 488
   - For the Data Science Option: DS 220, CMPSC 312, CMPSC 360, CMPSC 430, CMPSC 445, CMPSC 446, CMPSC 462, CMPSC 463, CMPSC 469, CMPSC 472, CMPSC 487W, and CMPSC 488

### Data Science Option (35 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Abington, Harrisburg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 441</td>
<td>Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 445</td>
<td>Applied Machine Learning in Data Science 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 446</td>
<td>Data Mining</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DS 220</td>
<td>Data Management for Data Sciences 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 401</td>
<td>Experimental Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 462</td>
<td>Applied Regression Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 131</td>
<td>Programming and Computation I: Fundamentals</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 132</td>
<td>Programming and Computation II: Data Structures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Courses

Select at least 6 credits from the following: 6

- CMPSC 313 Assembly Language Programming
- CMPSC 412 Data Structures Lab
- CMPSC 413 Algorithms Lab
- CMPSC 414 Contest Programming
- CMPSC 421 Net-centric Computing
- CMPSC 438 Computer Network Architecture and Programming
- CMPSC 444 Secure Programming
- CMPSC/MATH Introduction to Numerical Analysis I 455
- CMPSC 457 Computer Graphics Algorithms
- CMPSC 470 Compiler Construction
- CMPSC 475 Applications Programming
- CMPSC 496 Independent Studies
- CMPSC 497 Special Topics
- MATH 401 Introduction to Analysis I
- MATH 410 Complex Analysis for Mathematics and Engineering
- MATH 411 Ordinary Differential Equations
- MATH 412 Fourier Series and Partial Differential Equations
- MATH 425 Introduction to Operations Research
- MATH 430 Linear Algebra and Discrete Models I
- MATH 435 Basic Abstract Algebra
- MATH 448 Mathematics of Finance
- MATH 465 Number Theory

### General Option (35 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Abington, Harrisburg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 221</td>
<td>Object Oriented Programming with Web-Based Applications 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 470</td>
<td>Compiler Construction 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Courses

Select 9 credits from the following: 9

- CMPSC 313 Assembly Language Programming
- CMPSC 412 Data Structures Lab
- CMPSC 413 Algorithms Lab
- CMPSC 414 Contest Programming
- CMPSC 421 Net-centric Computing
- CMPSC 438 Computer Network Architecture and Programming
- CMPSC 441 Artificial Intelligence
- CMPSC 444 Secure Programming
- CMPSC 445 Applied Machine Learning in Data Science
- CMPSC 446 Data Mining
- CMPSC/MATH Introduction to Numerical Analysis I 455
- CMPSC 457 Computer Graphics Algorithms
- CMPSC 475 Applications Programming
- CMPSC 496 Independent Studies
- CMPSC 497 Special Topics
- MATH 425 Introduction to Operations Research

### Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 5 credits of unrestricted electives at 100-400 level 5

1. Students must earn a 2.5 or higher grade point average in the following courses:
   - For the General Option: CMPSC 221, CMPSC 312, CMPSC 360, CMPSC 430, CMPSC 460, CMPSC 462, CMPSC 463, CMPSC 469, CMPSC 470, CMPSC 472, CMPSC 487W, and CMPSC 488
   - For the Data Science Option: DS 220, CMPSC 312, CMPSC 360, CMPSC 430, CMPSC 445, CMPSC 446, CMPSC 462, CMPSC 463, CMPSC 469, CMPSC 472, CMPSC 487W, and CMPSC 488

### Special Topics

- MATH 468 Mathematical Coding Theory
- MATH 485 Graph Theory
- MATH 496 Independent Studies
- MATH 497 Special Topics
- STAT/MATH Introduction to Mathematical Statistics 415

### Applications

- STAT 463 Applied Time Series Analysis

### Independent Studies

- MATH 497 Special Topics
- MATH 425 Introduction to Operations Research
- MATH 485 Graph Theory

Select 6 credits from the following: 6

- CMPSC 313 Assembly Language Programming
- CMPSC 412 Data Structures Lab
- CMPSC 413 Algorithms Lab
- CMPSC 414 Contest Programming
- CMPSC 421 Net-centric Computing
General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)
- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Integrative Studies
- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

Exploration
- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student’s degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement
All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits.
Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

**Quality of Work**
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

**Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition**
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

**Program Learning Objectives**
- **Computational Problems:** Understand the processes of solving computational problems through a systematic approach.
- **Math Foundation:** Develop a solid foundation in mathematical studies relevant to computer science.

**Academic Advising**
The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

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**Suggested Academic Plan**
The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2023-24 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

**GENERAL OPTION: Computer Science, B.S. at Abington Campus**
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30H (GWS)</td>
<td>3 CAS 100 (GWS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 121 or 131 (GQ)</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 122/132 (GQ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 140 (GQ)</td>
<td>4 MATH 141 (GQ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GH)</td>
<td>3 General Education Course (GA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GHW)</td>
<td>3 PHYS 211 (GN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>17</td>
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</table>

**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GS)</td>
<td>3 Integrated/Inter-domain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GN)</td>
<td>2-3 General Education Course (Exploration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 360</td>
<td>3 MATH 220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 312</td>
<td>3 MATH 318, STAT 318, or STAT 414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 330</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 CMPSC 469</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14-15</td>
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<td>17</td>
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</table>

**Third Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 463</td>
<td>3 General Education Course (Exploration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C (GWS)</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 221</td>
<td>3 Additional Computer Science (Select 3 Credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 430</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Computer Science/Math Courses #Select 3 Credits)</td>
<td>3 Supporting Courses: Select 3 credits of 100-400 level courses in consultation with an academic adviser</td>
</tr>
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<td>15</td>
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**Fourth Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 487W</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supporting Courses: Select 2 credits of 100-400 level courses in consultation with an academic adviser
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 CMSC 488*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional Computer Science (Select 3 Credits)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Additional Computer Science (Select 3 Credits)</td>
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</table>

Supporting Courses: Select 3 credits of 300-400 level courses in consultation with an academic adviser

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Additional Computer Science/Math Courses (Select 3 Credits)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Integrated/Inter-domain

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<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits 120-121**

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
‡ Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

1. Natural Sciences (GN), recommended courses
   - PHYS 212 General Physics: Electricity and Magnetism

2. Students must earn a 2.5 or higher grade point average in the following courses: CMSC 221, CMSC 312, CMSC 330, CMSC 360, CMSC 430, CMSC 460, CMSC 462, CMSC 463, CMSC 469, CMSC 470, CMSC 472, CMSC 487W, and CMSC 488.

3. 3 credits from courses at 300-400 level and 5 credits from courses at 100-400 level are to be chosen in consultation with the adviser and with program approval.

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

**Program Notes:**

1. General Education & Entrance to Major Requirements (55 credits)
   a. English (9 credits)
      i. ENGL 15S (GWS) or ENGL 30T (GWS)
      ii. ENGL 202C (GWS)
      iii. CAS 100 (GWS)
   b. Mathematics (10 credits)
      i. MATH 140 (GQ)
      ii. MATH 141 (GQ)
      iii. MATH 220 (GQ)
   c. Computer Science (6 credits)
      i. CMSC 121/CMSC 131 (GQ)
      ii. CMSC 122/CMSC 132
   d. Natural Sciences (6 credits)
      i. PHYS 211 (GN)
      ii. Additional 2 credits of any courses with a GN suffix
   e. Arts† (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GA suffix
   f. Humanities† (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GH suffix
   g. Social & Behavioral Sciences† (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GS suffix
   h. Health & Physical Activities (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GHW suffix
   i. Integrated/inter-domain courses (6 credits)
   j. 6 additional credits of exploration (GA, GH, GN, GS or inter-domain)

2. Core Requirements (65 credits)
   a. Required Computer Science Courses - Students must earn a 2.5 or higher-grade point average in the Required Computer Science Courses (39 credits):
      i. CMSC 221
      ii. CMSC 312
      iii. CMSC 330
      iv. CMSC 360
      v. CMSC 430
      vi. CMSC 460
      vii. CMSC 462
      viii. CMSC 463
     ix. CMSC 469
     x. CMSC 470
     xi. CMSC 472
     xii. CMSC 487W
     xiii. CMSC 488
   b. Required Mathematics Courses - Select one course from the following (3 credits):
      i. STAT 318/MATH 318
      ii. STAT 414/MATH 414

3. Additional Courses: Technical Electives (15 credits)
   a. Select at least 15 credits from the following. At least 9 of these additional course credits must be from courses with a CMSC prefix. Other courses are to be chosen in consultation with the adviser and with program approval.
      i. CMSC 313
      ii. CMSC 412
      iii. CMSC 413
      iv. CMSC 414
      v. CMSC 421
      vi. CMSC 426
      vii. CMSC 438
      viii. CMSC 441
     ix. CMSC 444
     x. CMSC 445
     xi. CMSC 446
     xii. CMSC 455/MATH 455
     xiii. CMSC 457
xiv. CMPSC 475
xv. CMPSC 496
xvi. CMPSC 497
xvii. MATH 401
xviii. MATH 410
xix. MATH 411
xx. MATH 412
xxi. MATH 425
xxii. MATH 430
xxiii. MATH 435
xxiv. MATH 448
xxv. MATH 465
xxvi. MATH 468
xxvii. MATH 485
xxviii. MATH 496
xxix. MATH 497
xxx. STAT 401
xxxi. STAT 415/MATH 415
xxxii. STAT 462
xxxiii. STAT 463

4. Supporting Courses (8 credits)
   a. 3 credits from courses at 300-400 level and 5 credits of
      unrestricted electives at 100-400 level are to be chosen in
      consultation with the adviser and with program approval.
DATA SCIENCE OPTION: Computer Science, B.S. at Abington Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15 or 30H (GWS)†</td>
<td>3 CAS 100 (GWS)†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 131 (GQ)*</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 132*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 140 (GQ)†</td>
<td>4 MATH 141 (GQ)†</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GH)</td>
<td>3 General Education Course (GA)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GHW)</td>
<td>3 PHYS 211 (GN)†</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GS)</td>
<td>3 Integrated/Inter-domain</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GN)†</td>
<td>2-3 General Education Course (Exploration)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 360*</td>
<td>3 MATH 220</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 312*</td>
<td>3 MATH 318, STAT 318, or STAT 414</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 330*</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 462*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>14-15</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Third Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 463*</td>
<td>3 General Education Course (Exploration)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C (GWS)‡</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 445‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 401</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 469‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 430*</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 460‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 441*</td>
<td>3 Supporting Courses: Select 3 credits of 100-400 level courses in consultation with an academic adviser†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fourth Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 487W*</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 472*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Courses: Select 2 credits of 100-400 level courses in consultation with an academic adviser†</td>
<td>2 CMPSC 488‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 445*</td>
<td>3 Additional Course (Select 3 Credits)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 462</td>
<td>3 Additional Course (Select 3 Credits)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 120-121

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
‡ Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

1 Natural Sciences (GN)
2 Students must earn a 2.5 or higher grade point average in the following courses: DS 220, CMPSC 312, CMPSC 360, CMPSC 430, CMPSC 445, CMPSC 446, CMPSC 460, CMPSC 462, CMPSC 463, CMPSC 469, CMPSC 470, CMPSC 472, CMPSC 487W, and CMPSC 488.
3 5 credits of unrestricted electives at 100-400 level are to be chosen in consultation with the adviser and with program approval.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Program Notes:

1. General Education & Entrance to Major Requirements (55 credits)
   a. English (9 credits)
      i. ENGL 15S (GWS) or ENGL 30T (GWS)
      ii. ENGL 202C (GWS)
      iii. CAS 100 (GWS)
   b. Mathematics (10 credits)
      i. MATH 140 (GQ)
      ii. MATH 141 (GQ)
      iii. MATH 220 (GQ)
   c. Computer Science (6 credits)
      i. CMPSC 121/CMPSC 131 (GQ)
      ii. CMPSC 122/CMPSC 132
   d. Natural Sciences (6 credits)
      i. PHYS 211 (GN)
      ii. Additional 2 credits of any courses with a GN suffix
   e. Arts †: (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GA suffix
   f. Humanities †: (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GH suffix
   g. Social & Behavioral Sciences †: (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GS suffix
   h. Health & Physical Activities (3 credits)
      i. 3 credits of any courses with a GHW suffix
i. Integrated/inter-domain courses (6 credits)

j. 6 additional credits of exploration (GA, GH, GN, GS or inter-domain)

2. Core Requirements (65 credits)

   a. Computer Science/Data Science/Statistics Courses - Students must earn a 2.5 or higher grade-point average in the Required Computer Science Courses (45 credits):

      i. DS 220
      ii. CMPSC 312
      iii. CMPSC 330
      iv. CMPSC 360
      v. CMPSC 430
      vi. CMPSC 441
      vii. CMPSC 445
      viii. CMPSC 446
      ix. CMPSC 460
      x. CMPSC 462
      xi. CMPSC 463
      xii. CMPSC 469
      xiii. CMPSC 472
      xiv. CMPSC 487W
      xv. CMPSC 488

   b. Required Mathematics/Statistics Courses (9 credits):

      i. STAT 401
      ii. STAT 462
      iii. Select one course from the following:
          1. STAT 318/MATH 318
          2. STAT 414/MATH 414

3. Additional Courses: Technical Electives (6 credits)

   a. Select at least 6 credits from the following. Other courses are to be chosen in consultation with the adviser and with program approval.

      i. CMPSC 313
      ii. CMPSC 412
      iii. CMPSC 413
      iv. CMPSC 414
      v. CMPSC 421
      vi. CMPSC 426
      vii. CMPSC 438
      viii. CMPSC 444
      ix. CMPSC 455/MATH 455
      x. CMPSC 457
      xi. CMPSC 470
      xii. CMPSC 475
      xiii. CMPSC 496
      xiv. CMPSC 497
      xv. MATH 401
      xvi. MATH 410
      xvii. MATH 411
      xviii. MATH 425
      xix. MATH 430
      xxi. MATH 435
      xxi. MATH 448
      xxiii. MATH 465
      xxiv. MATH 468
      xxv. MATH 485
      xxvi. MATH 496
      xxvii. MATH 497
      xxviii. STAT 415/MATH 415
      xxix. STAT 463

4. Supporting Courses (5 credits)

   a. 5 credits of unrestricted electives at 100-400 level are to be chosen in consultation with the adviser and with program approval.

Career Paths

Computer Science jobs are expected to be among the top three fastest growing occupations and one of the top 20 in the number of new jobs created. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment opportunities for Computer Science graduates are projected to grow 11 percent from 2019 to 2029, faster than the average for all occupations. Computer Science students are encouraged to incorporate internships into their academic program. Internships can provide valuable hands-on experience that will benefit graduates during their job search. Previous students have completed successful internships with state government, Google, Amazon, Facebook, Microsoft, IBM, UNISYS, and other businesses.

Careers

This program is designed to prepare students for employment as computer scientists in engineering, scientific, industrial, and business environments as software developers, programmers, and systems analysts. Over the last few years, Penn State Harrisburg Computer Science graduates have obtained positions with companies such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Google, Boeing, Microsoft, Intel, IBM, Oracle, General Dynamics, Northrop and Grumman, GEOS, Hershey Medical Center, Woolworth, Rite Aid, and EDS.

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

The program provides a sound background for students who plan to pursue graduate studies in computer science, including Penn State’s Master of Science in Computer Science program. Selection of electives can be tailored for students pursuing this path.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (https://harrisburg.psu.edu/science-engineering-technology/computer-science-ms/)

Professional Resources

- Association for Computer Machinery (ACM) (https://www.acm.org/)
- IEEE (https://www.ieee.org/)

Contact

Abington
DIVISION OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7852
vue9@psu.edu
https://www.abington.psu.edu/academics/majors-at-abington/computer-science

**Harrisburg**

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https://harrisburg.psu.edu/science-engineering-technology/computer-science-bs