



**Department of Computer Sciences**  
**Major in Computer Science, B.S.**  
 Effective Fall 2023

**Purpose of the Major**

The Department offers coursework leading to the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Computer Science. The Computer Science major provides students with broad-based preparation in Computer Science with the appropriate supporting background in mathematics, science, communication, and ethics. **A grade of “C-” or better is required in all courses required for the major (CS, Math, Science, and Ancillary).** The program is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, <http://abet.org>.

**Required Computer Science Courses: 62 credits**

|   | Semester Hours |
|---|----------------|
| CS 1030 Computer Science Principles .....                       | 4              |
| CS 1050 Computer Science 1 .....                                | 4              |
| CS 1400 Computer Organization 1 .....                           | 4              |
| CS 2050 Computer Science 2 .....                                | 4              |
| CS 2240 Discrete Structures for Computer Science .....          | 4              |
| CS 2400 Computer Organization 2 .....                           | 4              |
| CS 3210 Principles of Programming Languages .....               | 4              |
| CS 3240 Introduction to Theory of Computation.....              | 2              |
| CS 3250 Software Development Methods & Tools .....              | 4              |
| CS 3600 Operating Systems .....                                 | 4              |
| CS 3700 Networking and Distributed Computing .....              | 4              |
| CS 4050 Algorithms and Algorithm Analysis .....                 | 4              |
| CS 4360 <sup>1</sup> Senior Experience in Computer Science..... | 4              |
| CS Upper Division Electives .....                               | 12             |

<sup>1</sup>University-required Senior Experience course

**Required Mathematics: 12 credits**

|  | Semester Hours |
|--|----------------|
| MTH 1410 Calculus I .....                        | 4              |
| MTH 3130 Applied Methods in Linear Algebra ..... | 4              |
| MTH 3210 Probability and Statistics.....         | 4              |

**Required Ancillary Courses: 9 credits**

|   | Semester Hours |
|---|----------------|
| COMM 1010 Presentational Speaking, or,            |                |
| COMM 1100 Fundamentals of Oral Communication..... | 3              |
| And,  |                |
| JMP 2610 Introduction to Technical Writing.....   | 3              |
| PHI 3370 Computers, Ethics, and Society .....     | 3              |

**Required Science Courses: 6 credits<sup>2</sup>**

Must include one of the following groups of courses:  
 Additionally, ENV 1200 (3 credits) may be chosen.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| BIO 1080 General Biology I.....                     | 3 |
| BIO 1090 General Biology Laboratory I.....          | 1 |
| <b>OR</b>   |   |
| BIO 1081 General Biology 2.....                     | 3 |
| BIO 1091 General Biology Laboratory 2 .....         | 1 |
| <b>OR</b>   |   |
| CHE 1800 General Chemistry I.....                   | 4 |
| CHE 1801 General Chemistry I Laboratory .....       | 1 |
| <b>OR</b>   |   |
| CHE 1810 General Chemistry 2 .....                  | 4 |
| CHE 1811 General Chemistry 2 Laboratory .....       | 1 |
| <b>OR</b>   |   |
| GEL 1010 Physical Geology .....                     | 4 |
| <b>OR</b>   |   |
| MTR 1400 Weather and Climate.....                   | 3 |
| MTR 2020 Weather and Climate Lab for Sciences ..... | 1 |
| <b>OR</b>   |   |
| PHY 2311 General Physics I .....                    | 4 |
| PHY 2321 General Physics I Laboratory.....          | 1 |
| <b>OR</b>   |   |
| PHY 2331 General Physics 2.....                     | 4 |
| PHY 2341 General Physics 2 Laboratory.....          | 1 |

<sup>2</sup>More often, this total will be 7 credits or more

**General Studies & Additional Course Requirements**

Students must complete the required MSU Denver General Studies course requirements (33 credits min.). Some of the Science, Mathematics, or Ancillary courses required for the Computer Science major may partially or fully satisfy specific General Studies requirements.

The Ethnic Studies & Social Justice (ESSJ) graduation requirement of 3 credit hours must also be satisfied. Some courses that satisfy the Multicultural requirement also satisfy a General Studies requirement.

**Total Credit Hours for the Computer Science B.S. Degree 120**

If you want additional information on this program or other programs offered by the **Department of Computer Sciences** visit our website at: <https://msudenver.edu/cs/> or call the office at: (303) 615-0399

---

## Purposes of the Computer Science Major

The Department of Computer Sciences, in the College of Health and Applied Sciences, offers a *Bachelor of Science in Computer Science*.

A Computer Science major provides students with broad-based preparation in the Computer Sciences and appropriate supporting background in mathematics, science, communication, and social awareness.

Graduates in Computer Science (CS) are positioned for employment in a variety of jobs both in the computing field and in the application of computing to other fields. The CS major also prepares students for continued study of Computer Science at the graduate level.

Specifically, the MSU Denver Computer Sciences program enables its graduates to become:

- Professionals capable of applying Computer Science principles and practices
- Graduate students in Computer Science and related fields
- Life-long learners capable of self-study, continuing education, and ongoing professional development
- Ethical practitioners in Computer Science and related fields
- Innovators able to respond to technological change and intellectual challenge

\*\* A minor in Computer Science is available \*\*

---

## Computer Sciences Advising and Declaring a Major in Computer Science

For Computer Sciences advising, schedule an appointment with a CS advisor or faculty member.

Additional information about the Department of Computer Sciences is available at the department's website at <https://msudenver.edu/cs/>.

---

## Computer Science Advisors & Faculty

|                    |           |              |  |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| Dr. Steve Beaty    | AES 200N  | 303-615-0173 | <a href="mailto:beatys@msudenver.edu">beatys@msudenver.edu</a>       |
| Ms. Blanche Cohen  | AES 200P  | 303-615-1362 | <a href="mailto:cohenb@msudenver.edu">cohenb@msudenver.edu</a>       |
| Dr. Steven Geinitz | AES 200X  | 303-605-7441 | <a href="mailto:ggeinitz@msudenver.edu">ggeinitz@msudenver.edu</a>   |
| Dr. Feng Jiang     | AES 200U  | 303-615-1258 | <a href="mailto:fjiang@msudenver.edu">fjiang@msudenver.edu</a>       |
| Dr. Thyago Mota    | AES 200R  | 303-605-7193 | <a href="mailto:tmota@msudenver.edu">tmota@msudenver.edu</a>         |
| Mr. ThienNgo Le    | AES 460C  | 303-605-7645 | <a href="mailto:tle61@msudenver.edu">tle61@msudenver.edu</a>         |
| Dr. Jody Paul      | AES 200Q  | 303-615-0978 | <a href="mailto:pauljod@msudenver.edu">pauljod@msudenver.edu</a>     |
| Dr. Daniel Pittman | AES 200M  | 303-605-7934 | <a href="mailto:dpittman8@msudenver.edu">dpittman8@msudenver.edu</a> |
| Dr. Ranjidha Rajan | AES 200V  | 303-605-7519 | <a href="mailto:rranjidh@msudenver.edu">rranjidh@msudenver.edu</a>   |
| Ms. Bobbi Scherman | AES 200BB | 303-615-1099 | <a href="mailto:bscherma@msudenver.edu">bscherma@msudenver.edu</a>   |
| Dr. Yiming Zhao    | AES 200Z  | 303-615-0516 | <a href="mailto:yizhao@msudenver.edu">yizhao@msudenver.edu</a>       |
| Dr. Weiyang Zhu    | AES 200AA | 303-615-1345 | <a href="mailto:wzhu1@msudenver.edu">wzhu1@msudenver.edu</a>         |

---

## Prerequisite Chart for Required Computer Science

|  |   |
|--|---|
| CS 1030 Computer Science Principles              | No Prerequisites  |
| CS 1050 Computer Science 1                       | CS 1030 or Readiness for College Algebra  |
| CS 1400 Computer Organization 1                  | Readiness for College Algebra   |
| CS 2050 Computer Science 2                       | CS 1050 and College Algebra   |
| CS 2240 Discrete Structures for Computer Science | CS 2050 and either (MTH 1400 or equivalent) or (MTH 1120 and (MTH 1110 or equivalent))                    |
| CS 2400 Computer Organization 2                  | CS 1050, CS 1400, College Algebra   |
| CS 3210 Principles of Programming Language       | CS 2050, CS 2400, CS 3240, CS 3250, and CS 2240   |
| CS 3240 Intro to Theory of Computation           | CS 2050 and CS 2240   |
| CS 3250 Software Development Methods & Tools     | CS 2050, ENG 1020, and CAS 1010   |
| CS 3600 Operating Systems                        | CS 2050, CS 2400, and CS 3250   |
| CS 3700 Networking and Distributed Computing     | CS 1400 and CS 2050   |
| CS 4050 Algorithms and Algorithm Analysts        | CS 3240, CS 3250, and 4 additional credits of upper division CS courses                                   |
| CS 4360 Senior Experience in Computer Science    | Senior Standing, CS 3250, COMM 1010/1100, JMP 2610, PHI 3370, and 12 additional upper division CS credits |

---

To see which CS Faculty Member is assigned to you, please check the Faculty Advising List 2022-2023 at: <https://www.msudenver.edu/cs/academic-student-support/>

Readiness to College Algebra  
(One of the following:)

- Advanced Algebra and Functions Accuplacer (AAF)  $\geq 245$
- ACT Math  $\geq 27$
- SAT Math  $\geq 610$

## Prerequisite Flowchart for Required CS Courses

MTH 1110  
College Algebra for  
Calculus

MTH 1120  
or  
MTH 1400

ENG 1020  
Research and  
Argument Writing

COM 1010  
Presentational  
Speaking  
or COM 1100  
Fundamentals of Oral  
Communication

MTH 1410  
Calculus  
1

CS 1030  
Computer Science  
Principles

OR

CS 1400  
Computer Org.  
1

CS 1050  
Computer Science  
1

CS 2050  
Computer Science  
2

CS 2400  
Computer Org.  
2

CS 3250  
Software Devel.  
Methods & Tools

CS 2240  
Discrete Structures  
for CS

OR

MTH 3170  
Discrete Math for CS

CS 3600  
Operating  
Systems

CS 3210  
Principles of  
Progr. Languages

CS 3240  
Intro to Theory of  
Computation

JMP 2610  
Intro to  
Technical Writing

MTH 3130 /40  
Applied Methods  
in Linear Algebra

CS 3700  
Networking and  
Distributed  
Computing

PHI 3370  
Computer, Ethics  
& Society

MTH 3210  
Probability &  
Statistics

Senior Standing

CS 4050  
Algorithms &  
Algorithms Analysis

4 Additional CS  
Upper Division  
CS Courses

Strongly  
Recommended

CS 4360  
Sr. Experience in  
Computer Science

12 Additional Upper  
Division CS Courses

Notes:

- 13\_\_ hundred-level MTH are not applicable as they are Bus. MTH
- All course grades must be C- or better
- Courses within the dotted, gray rectangles do not count toward the CS Major but do count toward total credits
- Dotted blue lines are courses strongly recommended
- Dotted teal lines are for elective courses
- MTH 3170 will phase out

