



COMPUTER SCIENCE

In 1966 Randolph-Macon was one of the nation's first small, liberal arts colleges to establish a Computer Science Department. The department's founder, Dr. Richard E. Grove, properly saw that Computer Science could be both effectively and appropriately presented within a full liberal arts curriculum. Today the department holds fundamentally to Dr. Grove's vision in its presentation of a modern Computer Science curriculum. In doing so, it is dedicated to excellence in teaching, fundamental preparation of students, and involvement of students in research. The major in Computer Science is built around a core of courses designed to follow the recommendations of the Association for Computing Machinery. In addition to the core courses, a student may choose electives in: Robotics, Compiler Design, Computer Graphics, Simulation, Software Engineering, and Parallel Computing.

Action Plan for Studying Computer Science:

- Consult the Computer Science section of the current Randolph- Macon Catalog or web site to find information about our courses, and about requirements for the major and minor.
- Set up a meeting with the Computer Science department instructors to discuss your potential interest in the major:
 - Dr. Burrell, Chairperson, Associate Professor – ext. 7209
 - Dr. Leska, Associate Professor - ext. 3158
 - Dr. Rabung, Professor – ext. 7328
- Consider a minor that would supplement your computer science skills.
- Use Alumni Link to find Randolph-Macon graduates who majored in Computer Science and contact them to discuss the major.
- Take Computer Science classes during your freshman and sophomore years to determine your interest in the major.

Features of the R-MC Computer Science Program:

- All faculty members have a Ph.D. and view their primary task as undergraduate education.
- Small class sizes facilitate interaction among students and faculty.
- Students may participate in faculty research projects, perhaps earning recognition in the form of conference presentations and publications.
- Computer facilities are always accessible.
- A campus network allows campus-wide and internet access from the dorm room.
- Topics classes can be designed around interests shared by the student and a faculty member.
- Internships can be tailored to a student's career goals.
- A friendly environment invites the asking of questions and the seeking of help, when needed.

Integrating Experience and the Discipline

A student majoring in Computer Science can do many things to increase his/her skills as well as make him/her more marketable during the job search:

- Get first-hand experience through internships or summer jobs.
- Learn to work well with a team and to meet deadlines.
- Supplement computer degree with courses in business, science, or technology.
- Stay current on programming languages and latest technology.
- Earn a master's degree or M.B.A. for upper level positions.
- Develop interpersonal, communication, and problem solving skills
- Work in university computer labs or as webmaster of an organization.
- Develop exceptional analytical and research skills.

POTENTIAL JOB TITLES FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE MAJORS

Advertising Account Executive	Customer Engineer	Production Manager
Artificial Intelligence Specialist	Database Administrator	Programmer/Analyst
Business Credit/Loan Administrator	EDP Auditor	Quality Control Engineer
CAD/CAM Designer	Ergonomics Program Designer	Securities Broker
Computer Engineer	Government Official	Special Effects Specialist
Computer Operator	Industrial Specialist/Buyer	Statistician
Computer Programmer	Information System Auditor	System Software Developer
Consultant	Manufacturing Engineer	Systems Analyst/Engineer
Contract Administrator	Market Research Analyst	Teacher
	Microbiologist	Technical Site Manager
	MIS Manager	Technical Writer
		Training Instructor

POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS/INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Backbone Operators	Internet Related Companies	Software Companies
Banks	Manufacturers	Universities
Computer Vendors	Network Access Points	Vendors
Consulting Firms	Research Institutions	Web Site Design Services
Financial Institutions	Retail Chains	
Government Agencies	Schools	

STRATEGIES FOR INTEGRATING EXPERIENCE AND DISCIPLINE

1. Find an internship/job during the summer months using your computer science skills to get experience outside the classroom.
2. Be an active member in The Association for Computing Machinery.
3. Develop leadership skills.
4. Get involved in student activities, such as:
 - Programming contests
 - Classroom/laboratory assisting
 - Student Linux Servers
 - Student Web Pages