

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science is the discipline of “problem solving” using a computer. Consequently, individuals studying this field learn to decompose a problem into its salient parts (design), apply a variety of algorithmic techniques to address those parts (analyze), and then translate the algorithmic solutions into a format that the computer can understand (program). Professional computer scientists apply their knowledge to diverse fields of science, engineering, business, medicine, entertainment, and communications.

Professional computer scientists obtain a formal education through the BS, MS, or PhD degrees with many opportunities to specialize in areas such as computer security, artificial intelligence, big data analytics, or mobile app development, among others. The Computer Science Department at OSU offers two options for undergraduate studies. The ABET-accredited BS degree in Computer Science emphasizes developing programming skills backed by a deep foundation in the theoretical and mathematical tools needed to analyze algorithmic solutions. The BS Computer Science degree is also available online. On the other hand, the new BS in Applied Computer Programming focuses on software design and development with less attention to math and theory.

At the graduate level, students can obtain both an MS and PhD in CS at our Stillwater location. At the master’s level, students can choose either the thesis option for those interested in research or the non-thesis option for those interested in honing industry-ready skills. Our PhD program is designed for students interested in finding research-oriented university or industry positions after graduation. A 4+1 option is available to OSU undergraduates which helps them obtain an MS sooner by applying 9 hours of computer science courses to both their BS and MS programs.