

Frequently Asked Questions About The Computer Science Program

Is the degree the same as the one from the main campus in Blacksburg?

Yes. The same standards and requirements are applied to a degree earned from the Northern Virginia Center as are required in Blacksburg.

Where are the classes held?

Most classes are taught at Northern Virginia Center (NVC), located at the intersection of Route 7 and Haycock Road, just off Route 66 at Exit 66. The NVC is located adjacent to the West Falls Church Metro Station.

When do classes meet?

Fall and spring semester classes meet once a week for 16 weeks, Monday through Friday evenings. Classes are scheduled at 4 p.m. and at 7 p.m. A summer semester is compressed into 12 weeks and classes also meet once a week.

What are the prerequisites for the degree program?

The prerequisites are discrete mathematics, linear algebra, calculus, probability and statistics, a programming language, data structures, computer organization, and operating systems.

Must I wait until I am formally accepted into the program to start classes?

Yes. Accepted applicants may take two classes as a commonwealth campus student. To take more classes you need to be formally admitted to the computer science program.

Yes, up to 9 credit hours may be transferred for MS students and up to 18 credit hours may be transferred for Ph.D. students.

What is the procedure for transferring course?

When you are accepted, complete a transfer credit form indicating which Virginia Tech course you wish to transfer. Include a syllabus of the course taken, name of the book used, an outline of the chapters in the text, and any homework or tests you have saved. Finally, provide an original transcript with the grade you received. Only original materials, including transcripts, will be accepted for evaluating credit transfer applications.

If I am admitted to another Virginia Tech program, can I take CS course?

Yes, you may take CS courses if you meet the prerequisites. However, you cannot earn a CS degree without being formally admitted to the program.

Must my undergraduate degree be in computer science?

No, your degree can be from any discipline, but you are required to meet the program prerequisites.

Are GRE/TOEFL tests an absolute requirement?

Yes. The GRE is required of all applicants unless you already have a Ph.D. from a recognized institution. The TOEFL is required for all applicants who have not graduated from a university in the United States.



National Capital Region

Computer Science (M.S. and Ph.D.) Information Systems (M.I.S.)



www.nvc.cs.vt.edu

The Computer Science Program

Virginia Tech's graduate computer science program offers the Northern Virginia community excellent educational opportunities through an exceptional blend of high academic standards and well-situated educational facilities. We employ state-of-the-art classrooms featuring fiber-optic network Internet connections, video-connected classrooms, several computer labs, and online distance learning facilities.

To complement Virginia Tech's renowned computer science laboratories on main campus in Blacksburg, the Northern Virginia Center computer science program has four research laboratories: the Data Mining and Visualization lab, the Database lab, the Software Reuse lab, and the Systems and Software Engineering lab. These provide fertile resources for students to engage in innovative research with our faculty in promising areas like distributed computing, data mining, visualization, data and knowledge management, intelligent agents, wireless and mobile computing, multimedia, software architecture, and software engineering.

The Computer Science Department offers a graduate program leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in computer science as well as a Master of Information System (M.I.S.). These programs are designed to accommodate the full-time professional's schedules as well as those of full-time students interested in lucrative research careers. With all of our programs, students can choose from coursework only options or traditional research-oriented thesis options.

Computer science plays a pivotal role in the technology revolution fueling the economic and personal advances evident in today's society. Our aim is to provide the best technologic value for society as a whole. With our proven record for technology advances and academic excellence, there is no better educational value for our students or the Northern Virginia community.

We encourage you to examine our computer science program and consider our record of successful alumni. We have an exceptional graduation rate coupled with an unparalleled opportunity to work with some of the top faculty in the Northern Virginia area. We believe that you will find our computer science program to be one of the best education values available today. Moreover, our focus on advanced technology will position you for a promising future in the increasingly lucrative technology market.

The Northern Virginia Center

Our degree programs are offered at the Northern Virginia Center in Falls Church, Virginia. Conveniently located adjacent to the West Falls Church Metro Station, off Route 7 and Interstate 66, the center offers computer labs, a Cyber Lounge, and electronic classrooms with multi-media support and ATM/Network Virginia.net and IP video transmissions.



Regular Course Offerings

- CS 5014: Research Method
- CS 5024: Models and Analysis
- CS 5034: Models of Computation
- CS 5104: Computability and Formal Languages
- CS 5114: Theory of Algorithms
- CS 5204: Operating System
- CS 5214: Modeling and Evaluation of Computer Systems
- CS 5244: Internet Software
- CS 5314: Programming Language
- CS 4570: Wireless Networks and Mobile Systems
- CS 5504: Computer Architecture
- CS 5560: Network and Computer Security
- CS 5565: Network Architecture and Protocols I
- CS 5565: Network Architecture and Protocols II
- CS 5604: Information Storage and Retrieval
- CS 5614: Database Management Systems
- CS 5624: Introduction to Data Mining
- CS 5704: Software Engineering
- CS 5744: Software Design and Quality
- CS 5804: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence
- CS 5974: Independent Study
- CS 5984: Special Study
- CS 6204: Advanced Topics in Systems
- CS 6564: Multimedia Networking
- CS 6570: Advanced Foundations of Networking
- CS 6604: Advanced Topics in Data and Information
- CS 6704: Advanced Topics in Software Engineering
- CS 6804: Advanced Topics in intelligent Systems

Why do Northern Virginia students choose Virginia Tech's graduate programs in computer science?

- Quality education at the Commonwealth's leading technological university and convenient to one of the nation's largest and fastest growing technology communities.
- Topnotch computer science professors fostering effective research and education opportunities.
- Proven and recognized graduate programs geared for both working professionals and aspiring researchers.
- Flexible delivery of education services through advanced networks and proven e-learning alternatives.

Computer Science Department

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Virginia
Tech

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CENTER

Computer Science (M.S. and Ph.D.)

The Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in computer science programs provide in-depth knowledge (theory and practice) – laying a solid foundation in computer science while offering flexibility to meet the needs and interests of individual students.

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science

A student pursuing a doctoral degree is expected to exhibit a comprehensive knowledge of a broad cross section of computer science and contribute significant knowledge to the discipline through research for a doctoral dissertation.

The computer science Ph.D. program builds on the same flexible structure of the master's program. Ph.D. students initially follow a similar course of study. However, the interaction and mentoring process is emphasized, as students are encouraged to participate in new and ongoing research projects with faculty advisors.

The program is intended to be completed in four to five years from entering the graduate program with a B.S. degree in computer science or a related discipline.

Master of Information Systems (M.I.S.)

The master of information systems (M.I.S.) degree program focuses on design, implementation, operation, and evaluation of complex systems. A student devotes extensive attention to the area of engineering science, data management, knowledge engineering, information assurance, multimedia, and mobile computing applications. Written and oral communication skills are stressed.

