



COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION

Computer Information Systems

“The computer information systems option is available to students pursuing the Bachelor of Science in business administration. This option allows students to learn fundamental business skills with a more technical emphasis.”

Program

The Computer Information Systems concentration of the B.S. in business administration degree combines elements of computer science with the business degree. Graduates are capable of developing computer-based solutions to business problems. Most graduates pursue careers with large companies as analysts. CIFS coursework includes at least eight computer science courses. Students also complete the business core, which includes accounting, finance, marketing, and management.

Careers

Almost all businesses require a strong information technology component. Media organizations such as Money Magazine and CNN consistently rate several computing careers among their annual lists of “Best Jobs.” Many of our computer information systems graduates go on to well-paid careers with large corporations in South Carolina and financial institutions in the Charlotte area. Many of these graduates work as a business analysts while others work as database developers or software developers.

Internships

An internship is a great way to gain valuable experience, build a resume, and earn extra money for school. Internships often serve as a stepping stone to a full-time career.

Groups/Professional Organizations

Beta Gamma Sigma, the national scholastic honorary society for students of business administration, and Upsilon Pi Epsilon (Beta chapter of South Carolina), the national collegiate honor society for the computing sciences, are available to high-achieving students. Winthrop also has a

student chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM). The chapter sponsors social events, lectures by Winthrop faculty and, in association with Clemson and Furman universities, lectures by ACM National Lecturers. The College of Business Administration sponsors a chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, the national honors fraternity for financial information professionals.

Facilities

Course work includes learning to develop software in multiple programming languages, algorithm analysis, database design and development, software engineering, and a field-based senior capstone course. In addition to the more than 20 campus computer laboratories, Winthrop’s CIFS students have three computer labs reserved for their use. Equipment includes Linux-based workstations, Windows PCs, a 32-node Beowulf cluster, Dell servers, and network switches and routers. These labs offer the latest preleases of several large software suites such as Microsoft Office, Microsoft Visual Studio, Autodesk AutoCAD, Adobe Creative Suite, as well as a multitude of more specialized applications such as Mathematica, SPSS, SAS and ArcGIS to name a few. All central campus buildings and residence halls are connected to the campus network and internet through fiber optic cable. Students are provided with consolidated computing services including Web-based e-mail, central server storage space, and personal Web pages. The Academic Computing Center also provides computer access for visually impaired students.

For more information, contact:

Dr. R. Stephen Dannelly,
Chair, Computer Science and
Quantitative Methods
College of Business
Administration
Thurmond Building
Rock Hill, SC 29733
803/323-4811
Fax: 803/323-3960
dannellys@winthrop.edu

Faculty

The computer science and business administration faculty at Winthrop is highly dedicated to teaching. A high level of knowledge of their specialty areas, combined with “real world” experience serves to benefit their students. Members of the faculty have won Winthrop’s Distinguished Professor, Outstanding Junior Professor, and Excellence in Teaching Awards. They are also involved in active research, participate in a variety of professional activities, and volunteer in the Rock Hill community. Computer information system students have plenty of opportunities to interact with their professors and establish the contact that they will need for advanced study and employment.

Mission of our College

Our mission is to prepare students in a learning centered environment, and service, with the professional and leadership skills necessary for positions in the global marketplace, while fostering life-long learning and service to the external community.

Accreditation

Accreditation is a voluntary, non-governmental, peer-review process that assures the quality of the education students receive. The B.S. in business administration, including the computer information systems concentration, is accredited by AACSB International. The B.S. in the computer science degree program is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET. Both ABET and AACSB are the premiere accrediting bodies for those types of degree programs.



For more information, contact:
Dr. R. Stephen Dannelly, Chair
Computer Science and
Quantitative Methods
College of Business Administration
Thurmond Building
Rock Hill, SC 29733
Phone: 803/323-4811
Fax: 803/323-3960
dannelly@winthrop.edu