Department Mission

The mission of the Department of Computer Science is to advance the knowledge of computer science and technology through education, research and service for the betterment of society. The program focuses on key areas of applied computing of national priority:

- computer security and networking
- data analytics and management
- high-performance computing
- human-computer interaction
- informatics
- software engineering

The curriculum emphasizes building complementary and interdisciplinary technical skills in applied computing and equipping students with non-technical skills that are essential to navigating multiple career paths.

I started at Texas State while working full-time because of the flexibility of taking graduate-level evening courses on the Round Rock Campus. I focused on my thesis while working in a research lab on the San Marcos campus under the guidance of very supportive faculty members.

– Lee B. Hinkle, M.S. ’16

The Ph.D. program in computer science integrates cutting-edge research, innovation and entrepreneurship to prepare students for multiple career paths.

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Why choose Texas State?
This program is the first in Texas to offer doctoral-level studies in computer science with formalized business training. The emphasis on collaboration with industry and preparation for careers in academia, business, nonprofit organizations and government laboratories is a powerful driver for original research and innovative product development.

Graduate students consistently win national, regional and industry awards, including National Science Foundation Graduate Research Program Fellowships, Council of Southern Graduate Schools Outstanding Thesis awards, and IBM’s Master the Mainframe contests.

Course Work
The program can be taken both full-time and part-time. A total of 54 semester credit hours is required for a student entering with a master’s degree and 78 with a bachelor’s degree. Course work consists of breadth courses, including two 7000-level courses from both concentrations (information management and software systems), two commercialization courses, and an introduction to computer science research course. The depth electives consist of nine hours of 7000-level courses from the student’s selected concentration. The remaining 24 hours are for the dissertation. Additional requirements include two one-week boot camps, a qualifying exam, a comprehensive exam and programming competency skills.

Faculty
The department has six main research areas: computer security and networking, data analytics and management, high-performance computing, human-computer interaction, informatics, and software engineering. With expenditures of $1.5 million in recent years, research activities have increased several-fold, leading to numerous faculty accolades, including a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), several NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Awards, and a Distinguished Member of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) designation.

Career Options
» assistant professor
» data scientist
» entrepreneur
» lecturer
» postdoctoral fellow
» program manager
» research associate
» research engineer
» research scientist
» research staff member
» senior researcher
» senior software engineer
» software architect
» software consultant
» software specialist

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Fall Priority: February 1
Fall: June 15
Spring: No admission
Summer: No admission
Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/cs-phd