

"The computer and information science program is filled with bright and energetic students who are eager to learn and apply their knowledge. Classroom sizes are small, which allows enriched discussion and substantive teacher and peer relationships. Our program is focused on teaching in-demand technical skills and providing opportunities for real-world application. Springfield's computing future is bright and I am thrilled to be a part of it."

- Jeremy Castagno, PhD, Assistant Professor of Computer Science

## What Will You Learn?

### Critical Thinking and Problem-solving Skills

Learn how to break down complex problems into smaller components, understand the constraints of a system, and find creative solutions.

### Learn to Program and Develop Algorithms

Learn foundational algorithms and data structures while mastering multiple programming languages such as Python and C++.

### Learn Modern Tools and Frameworks

Learn best practices in software development, testing, and deployment. We teach students with modern tools to make them effective at their job and marketable for future employment.

## Where Can You Go?

Web Development  
Cybersecurity  
Software Engineering  
Network Engineering  
Project Management  
Game Development  
Data Science  
Education  
Government Service  
Private or Public Research

## 1st YEAR

### Pursue Knowledge

Take your Springfield College Seminar (SCSM 101).  
Take your Foundations for the Future courses.  
take CISC 215 Python Programming.

### Gain Experience

Consider joining the Computer Science Club.  
Meet with a representative from the Career Center.  
Knowing another language is a valued asset in nearly all careers. Build language study into your academic and professional plan.

### Build Your Communities

Attend the Club/Organization Fair.  
Get involved with a club, service activity, intramural sports, New Student Orientation (NSO), Residential Life, or Pre-Camp.  
Consider a campus job, if you are eligible for work-study, or community-engaged employment opportunities.

### Prepare for Life After College

**Get involved to develop transferable skills**

- Attend departmental and campus events to network and meet faculty, staff, and students.
- Meet with a Career Counselor to explore careers and/or majors.
- Utilize Career Center resources, including Handshake.

## 2nd YEAR

Take four Understanding the World courses.  
Finish your Wellness Course sequence.  
Focus on 200 Level Computer and Information Sciences courses.  
Declare a Themed Exploration that complements your major interests.  
Take Math 235: Discrete Math 1.

Serve as a member of a club or organization.  
Begin applying for internship opportunities.  
If you're interested in a semester abroad your junior year, start planning now with your advisor and International Center staff.

Serve as a member of a club or organization.  
Begin applying for internship opportunities.  
Get to know the larger Springfield community through service projects with the Center for Service and Leadership.  
Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and the International Center.

### Develop academic and career-related goals

- Visit the Career Center to research fields of interest.
- Have resumes and cover letters reviewed by the Career Center.
- Now is the time to develop your academic and career goals with your advisor and a career counselor.

## 3rd YEAR

Take your Themed Exploration courses.  
Get started on your Wellness Passport.  
Declare a minor to complement your creative or academic goals.

Strengthen your writing and coding skills by sharing your work on GitHub.  
Complete an internship.  
Continue to develop leadership skills through attending a regional or national conference or becoming an executive board member of your club/organization.

Hold a leadership position.  
Explore short-term abroad opportunities with the International Center, as well as service-oriented spring break experiences in the U.S., like Alternative Spring Break.

### Gain experiential education in your field

- Attend networking events and job fairs to learn about employment opportunities.
- Plan an internship experience with your faculty internship coordinator and the Career Center.
- Look at graduate school requirements to ensure you are on track.

## 4th YEAR

Take your third Themed Exploration course.  
Complete your second Writing Across the Curriculum course.  
Finish your Wellness Passport.  
Complete your Core Capstone work.  
Take Computer Systems Seminar.

Present a paper at Scholars in Action Day, and/or at a regional or national conference in your area of study or activity.  
Consider a second internship.

Mentor another student.  
Explore new activities you haven't tried before.

### Apply for jobs or graduate school

- Prepare your applications for jobs and graduate school.
- Ask professionals to serve as references.
- Participate in mock interviews to strengthen skills and build confidence.
- Speak with the International Center about opportunities in the U.S. and abroad.