



Academic Learning Compact

Computing & Information Sciences (Information Technology)

Program Mission Statement

The School of Computing is dedicated to the promotion of an academically exciting and progressive intellectual climate, characterized by a superior program of instruction, peer-recognized scholarship, effective support services, and productive professional community involvement. In particular, the School is committed to offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs observing national standards, maintaining and expanding course offerings to keep pace with the rapid development of computer theory and computer technology. In recognition of its leadership position in computing, the School supports the need for instruction in computing as required by other University programs and advocates faculty participation in collaborative computer-related projects involving other professionals or colleagues. The vitality of the School is enhanced by encouraging ongoing faculty research and development, ultimately serving the instructional mission of the School and providing both Northeast Florida and the nation with a wellspring of knowledge and wisdom in computing.

The Bachelor of Science in Computer & Information Sciences, Information Technology Track, combines professional requirements with general education requirements and electives to prepare all students for a professional career in the Information Technology field, for further study in Information Technology, and for functioning in modern society. Such preparation is also useful to those students who are interested in pursuing graduate studies.

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able

Content/Discipline-Specific Knowledge/Skills

- Analyze legal, social, security, and ethical issues that arise in the technology discipline both locally and globally and recognize the need for continued professional development. (ABET outcomes e,g,h)

Communication Skills

- Work effectively in a collaborative setting. (ABET outcome d)
- Communicate effectively in both oral and written forms. (ABET outcome f)

Critical Thinking Skills

- Apply best practices and standards in advanced technical coursework/concentration. (ABET outcomes i,j,m)
- Identify, analyze, and evaluate user needs. (ABET outcomes a,b,k)
- Address user needs through the selection, creation, implementation, integration, and administration of computer-based systems. (ABET outcomes a,c,k,l,n)

Assessment Approaches

Note: The course number CIS4253 (Legal and Ethical Issues in Computing) was changed to CIS3253 starting in the Fall 2015 term.

Student Learning Outcomes are categorized based on attainment of: 1) Content/Discipline-Specific Knowledge/Skills; 2) Communication Skills – Collaboration and Oral & Written Communications; 3) Critical Thinking Skills. A number of direct and indirect assessment approaches will be employed to assess attainment of the outcomes.

The outcome corresponding to Content/Discipline-Specific Knowledge/Skills is assessed directly in CIS3253 (Legal and Ethical Issues in Computing). The activities in the different rubrics of assessment employed in this course require students to write papers and essay-type answers to test questions.

The outcome corresponding to Collaboration Skills is assessed directly in CIS3253 (Legal and Ethical Issues in Computing) and other course required in IT concentrations. This assessment is carried out primarily in team project situations. Each team member (student) provides a rating of other team members on several questions on the evaluation instruments provided by the Comprehensive Assessment of Team Member Effectiveness (CATME) tool (www.catme.org).

The outcome corresponding to Oral Communication Skills is assessed directly in several courses which require oral presentations. Students who wish to use an oral presentation in any of these courses will have the instructor complete and "Oral Communications Form" indicating the fulfillment and the instructor's assessment of the presentation(s).

The outcome corresponding to Written Communication Skills is assessed directly in CIS3253 (Legal and Ethical Issues in Computing) in which students write 2000-word term paper.

The outcome corresponding to Critical Thinking Skills is assessed directly through performance measures related to the requirements analysis and design as well as activities in IT concentration courses.

Indirect measures of assessment in all three categories include employer or alumni surveys; student perception surveys; graduate school placement rates, etc. These surveys record responses of "Strongly Disagree", "Disagree", "Neutral", "Agree", or "Strongly Agree" to several questions related to the student outcomes. A certain percentage of responses of "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" is used as the threshold for the level of attainment of the associated outcome.