



Academic Learning Compact

Computing & Information Sciences (Information Science)

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.

Students pursuing the Information Science program may select a minor from an area other than business administration. This program is only recommended for a student who has a strong interest in a secondary field other than business administration. It can also be used for a post baccalaureate student seeking a second bachelor's degree; a minor is not required for a second bachelor's degree. Depending upon the choice of minor, graduates will be prepared for careers as systems programmers, applications programmers, systems analysts or other specialized computer-related professionals.

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able

Content/Discipline-Specific Knowledge/Skills

- Analyze a complex computing problem and to apply principles of computing and other relevant disciplines to identify solutions
- Design, implement, and evaluate a computing-based solution to meet a given set of computing requirements in the context of the program's discipline
- Function effectively as a member or leader of a team engaged in activities appropriate to the program's discipline

Communication Skills

- Communicate effectively in a variety of professional contexts

Critical Thinking Skills

- Recognize professional responsibilities and make informed judgments in computing practice based on legal and ethical principles.

Assessment Approaches

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 CIS4327/CIS4328 Senior Project I/II. 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.

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 completion of business system requirements and analysis documents, system design documents, and a functioning business application system.

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.