Department of Computer and Information Sciences FAQs

1. What do people do with a Computer Science degree?
Computer Science influences every facet of modern life. Upon graduation, our students lead and contribute across a variety of fields. They develop software for the airline industry at Delta, help to create the next generation of medical technology at Medtronic, and fight cybercrime at the FBI, just to name just a few. Others continue their studies at institutions, like Carnegie Mellon and UMass Amherst, with plans to one day teach and research in academia. Our graduates are in such high demand that most have their first step toward a future career path established before the end of their final semester.

2. Is it possible for Computer Science majors to get a minor or to double major?
Yes! We have purposefully designed a flexible curriculum to enable our students to pursue all their educational interests. Computer Science majors have minored or double-majored in Statistics, Mathematics, Finance, English, Japanese, Music, History, Psychology, and many more.

3. What do Computer Science majors do in the summer? Do most majors get internships?
Many of our majors will spend at least one summer in an internship before they graduate. Our students have interned for Target, 3M, the Federal Reserve, Travelers, the Mayo Clinic, Wells Fargo, and numerous others. In addition to internships, some students have spent their summers studying abroad, researching with UST faculty, working in national laboratories like Los Alamos, and participating in research experiences funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

4. Do I need to have had any programming in high school to be a Computer Science major?
No! We do not expect our majors to have any experience with programming or Computer Science in general. Our introductory courses start with the basics and, like the rest of our curriculum, focuses on problem-solving through hands-on learning. Even if you are only mildly curious about Computer Science, we strongly encourage you to take an introductory course.

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