



# Computer Information Systems

## About this Composite Major

The Computer Information Systems major prepares students with a foundation in problem-solving skills required to design and implement technology solutions to support business needs. The courses use project-based curricula that first teach the concepts of the subject matter and then require the students to apply the concepts.

Students often work in teams to encourage the learning of group dynamics and soft-skills. The CSSE Department has joined in Academic Alliances with technology companies such as SAP, Microsoft, and Salesforce, using these technologies to complete hands-on projects.

Students graduating with a Computer Information Systems Degree have a 100% in-field job placement rate. Career opportunities are Business Analyst, Systems Analyst, Database Administrator, MIS Technician, MIS Manager, Network Administrator, Computer Security Specialist, Computer Programmer, Software Engineer, Software Implementation Consultant, IT Team Leader and IT Project Manager. Visit our page at csse.vcsu.edu (<http://csse.vcsu.edu>). Let your dream become a reality at Valley City State University!

## Meet a Student



My major is Computer Information Systems. (<http://catalog.vcsu.edu/undergraduate-catalog/programs/majors/computer-information-systems/>) I chose that because it fit well with the IT job that I want to go into, and I enjoy working with computers. Additionally, it can get me nearly any IT job around the country with better wages. - Derek Bear, Valley City, N.D.

Jobs with a Computer Information Systems Degree

**1,165,462**  
**jobs**

were posted in the upper  
Midwest last year in this career  
field



**\$92,000**

is the median salary in the  
upper Midwest for graduates  
with a CIS degree

A degree in Computer Information Systems from VCSU can open up opportunities you never thought possible. This is a growing career field and careers open to graduates with this degree can include:

- Software developer
- Network or systems engineer
- IT manager
- Database specialist
- Front-end application designer
- Web developer
- Computer scientist
- UI/UX designer
- Computer programmer

## Practical Experience

Students are encouraged to work for internship credits while completing their degree in Computer Information Systems. Companies such as Doosan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota, Bobcat, Eide Bailly, Thomson Reuters, Cavendish, John Deere, Microsoft, Appareo Systems, NBC Universal, and Best Buy have welcomed VCSU students in their internship programs.

VCSU students develop excellent technology and soft skills and many are hired into full-time positions with these companies after graduation. In addition to internships, cooperative research projects with faculty give students first-hand experience with advanced research techniques. Computer Information Systems majors join Software Engineering majors in the capstone course to work as a team to solve real world problems. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the VCSU Student ACM Chapter to learn more about careers and technical topics while networking with other students, faculty, and potential employers.

*"Valley City State University offers excellent Software Engineering and Computer Information Systems degrees."*



*The top-notch instructors along with the smaller class sizes provided me with an excellent education. I feel fully prepared for a job in either of these fields.” —Patrick McCarthy '20, Hazen, ND*

## Contact Information

### Department Chair and Faculty Contact

Susan Pfeifer, susan.pfeifer@vcsu.edu, (701) 845-7719

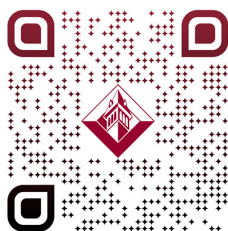
### Department Location

McFarland Hall 138, (701) 845-7550

### Schedule your visit today!

<http://visit.vcsu.edu/>

(701) 845-7101 or (800) 532-8641, ext. 7101



**Learn more  
about studying  
Computer  
Information  
Systems at  
Valley City State  
University**

## Plan of Study

### Freshman

| Fall                   | Credits   | Spring            | Credits   |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| ACCT 200               | 3         | ACCT 201          | 3         |
| CIS 170 (Gen Ed)       | 3         | CIS 147           | 3         |
| SE 110                 | 3         | Directed Elective | 3         |
| ENGL 110 (Gen Ed)      | 3         | ENGL 125 (Gen Ed) | 3         |
| Art and Music (Gen Ed) | 3         | MATH 104 (Gen Ed) | 3         |
| UNIV 150               | 1         |                   |           |
|                        | <b>16</b> |                   | <b>15</b> |

### Second Year

| Fall                           | Credits   | Spring                        | Credits   |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| CSCI 127                       | 3         | ECON 202 (Gen Ed)             | 3         |
| ECON 201 (Gen Ed)              | 3         | CIS 329                       | 3         |
| MATH 210                       | 3         | Directed Elective             | 3         |
| Lab Science (Gen Ed)           | 4         | Directed Elective             | 3         |
| Humanities Literacies (Gen Ed) | 3         | Speech Communication (Gen Ed) | 3         |
|                                | <b>16</b> |                               | <b>15</b> |

### Third Year

| Fall                 | Credits   | Spring   | Credits   |
|----------------------|-----------|--|-----------|
| CIS 369              | 3         | SE 379   | 3         |
| CIS 465              | 3         | SE 381   | 3         |
| SE 380               | 3         | Directed Elective                                | 3         |
| SE 385               | 3         | HPER 100 (Gen Ed)                                | 2         |
| Lab Science (Gen Ed) | 4         | Additional Humanities or Social Science (Gen Ed) | 2         |
|                      | <b>16</b> |  | <b>13</b> |

### Fourth Year

| Fall              | Credits   | Spring            | Credits   |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| ENGL 410          | 3         | Directed Elective | 3         |
| Directed Elective | 3         | Elective          | 3         |
| Elective          | 3         | Elective          | 3         |
| Elective          | 3         | Elective          | 3         |
| Elective          | 3         | SE 480            | 3         |
|                   | <b>15</b> |                   | <b>15</b> |

**Total Credits 121**

Please note: This plan is intended for general information only. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with their academic advisor each semester before registration.