Computer Information Systems Concentration

The Department of Computer Information Systems is a leader in technology, setting the standard for IT education. The curriculum evolves continuously to ensure that your degree features the most useful and up-to-date material valued in the industry.

What Do Computer Information Systems Professionals Do?
Information Technology (IT) professionals are responsible for helping information flow through organizations, which enables all other functions of business to be efficient and profitable. Some of the activities in this occupation may include analyzing systems; evaluating processes and developing/proposing/implementing ways to facilitate enhanced efficiency and/or profitability of those systems; programming; trouble shooting; training users and other developers; writing documentation for systems (“technical writing”); creating and maintaining databases; testing systems; consulting; and creating and maintaining websites. Careers in IT are exciting, fast-paced, challenging, ever-changing, and sometimes unpredictable. New tools and methods are often available and new skills must be continuously developed in order to stay competitive and marketable.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, CIS jobs are expected to grow by 12 percent from 2018 to 2028, which is about twice the national average for all occupations. The median annual salary for CIS jobs is more than double compared to other industries.

Common Characteristics and Skills of Successful CIS Students and Professionals
• Enjoy problem solving, troubleshooting
• Fast learner, willing to learn new things
• Can lead others to productivity regarding technology
• Understands and enjoys working with technology
• Understands logic and sequencing of events
• Organization skills
• Strong analytic and planning skills
• Understands how all business functions are related
• Ability to communicate information to non-technical audiences
• Manages time well and meets deadlines
• Written communication skills
• Detail-oriented
• Strong quantitative abilities

Tips for Researching Occupations in Computer Information Systems
• Discuss career options with CIS professors
• Shadow an IT professional for a day
• Search the web for job profiles and position descriptions
• Talk to alumni of the CIS program
• Attend the Career Fair and ask recruiters about CIS jobs
• Visit with a Career Counselor in the Career Center
• Take an online assessment (see the Career Center website) to see if an occupation in IT is for you
• Get an IT internship
• Know yourself and what type of work you enjoy
• Get involved with a club/organization and run for the office of Webmaster or Technical Coordinator
• Join and participate in CIS Club activities

Potential Careers in Computer Information Systems
• Bus. App. Developer
• Bus. Intelligence Analyst
• Cybersecurity Manager
• Data Analyst
• Database Developer Administrator
• Info. Systems Manager
• IT Consultant
• IT Quality Assurance Engineer
• Info. Security Analyst
• Mobile App Developer
• Network Admin.
• Project Manager
• Software Developer/Engineer
• Systems Analyst
• Systems Architect
• Tech Entrepreneur
• Technical Sales Rep.
• Technical Support Specialist
• User Interface Designer
• Web Administrator/Developer

Online Resources
www.acinet.org www.bls.gov
Computer Information Systems (CIS): 162 Students

- First generation: 19.1%
  (first in their family to earn a bachelor’s degree)
- Identify as racially or ethnically diverse: 28.4%
- Double concentrate: 14.6%
- Double major: 4.6%
- Grade Point Average: 3.33
- Colorado residents: 82.7%
- Non-residents: 13%
- International: 4.3%
- Internship, Practicum, and Field Experience Rates: All Concentration Average: 63%
  CIS: 40%
- Average Starting Salary\(^1\):
  All Concentration Average: $51,283
  CIS: $59,263
- Job/Education Offer Rates\(^2\):
  All Concentration Average: 93%
  CIS: 91%

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\(^1\) Average salary is based on full-time permanent employment.
\(^2\) Offer rate is the percentage of graduates who are actively seeking employment or education that secured plans or indicated at least one job offer within six months of graduation.