ABOUT COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer science students are members of multi-disciplinary teams that compete at NASA’s annual Robotic Mining Competition (formerly known as Lunabotics) held at Kennedy Space Center. Looney is an award-winning robot that CS students help program. CS students also compete in a RoboSub competition sponsored by the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) and the U.S. Office of Naval Research (ONR). Designed to advance the development of Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs), the competition challenges a new generation of computer scientists and engineers to perform realistic missions in an underwater environment.

As a computer scientist, you will learn skills that provide great career flexibility and are personally valuable.

Because computing is pervasive in today’s world, the variety of computing-based careers is limitless. Do you want to develop a mobile app for a non-profit organization? You can do it! Do you want to help create special effects for a movie such as The Hobbit? Why not? Computing careers are only limited by your imagination.

A few specialty areas within our department include algorithm design, artificial intelligence, computational biology, data mining, machine learning, network design, robotics, software engineering and wireless networks. As a student in our department, you will have the opportunity to work with world-class professors on exciting projects that leverage the interdisciplinary nature of computing. For example, students with an interest in robots have the opportunity to compete in annual competitions such as the NASA Robotic Mining Competition at Kennedy Space Center or RoboGames in Silicon Valley.

If you have an interest in computing and want to help invent the future, we invite you to join us!

MARKETABILITY

There is a world-wide shortage of computer scientists and this shortage is projected to continue through at least 2020. In Montana last year, demand for computer scientists outstripped the supply of graduates by an 8 to 1 ratio. Consequently, computer science graduates command one of the highest starting salaries of any major — $65,000! If you enjoy computers, the combination of impactful, meaningful careers that are in demand and pay well is a compelling reason to major in computer science.
ABOUT MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1893 as a Land Grant University, Montana State University (MSU) boasts a friendly, supportive faculty and campus environment. MSU currently enrolls more than 14,000 students, including 1,900 graduate students. According to the Carnegie Foundation, MSU is the one and only university that (1) primarily serves undergraduate students, (2) encourages service learning opportunities, and (3) supports a very high level of research activity. As a student, you will benefit from MSU’s unique niche in higher education!

MSU is located in Bozeman, Montana, an extended community of 70,000 nestled in the Rocky Mountains about 90 miles north of Yellowstone National Park. In addition to providing access to extraordinary teaching and research programs, Bozeman is renowned for year-round recreational and cultural opportunities that include access to world class ski areas, multiple blue ribbon trout streams and the Gallatin National Forest. The local airport is served by four national airlines and is the second busiest airport in the state.

Named an All American City, Bozeman boasts high-quality medical facilities, a very low crime rate, many fine restaurants, acclaimed public and private schools, a symphony orchestra and choir, an annual opera, and nationally known events such as the Sweet Pea Festival of the Arts held in early August.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Computer Science Department and the College of Engineering both offer scholarships to qualified students. Continuing students typically apply in January for the coming academic year. The department’s numerous scholarships are generously provided by industry and alumni; http://www.cs.montana.edu/scholarships

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Learning about the world is rewarding from both a professional and personal standpoint. With planning, a student can earn an international engineering certificate to accompany a Computer Science B.S. degree; http://www.coe.montana.edu/iec. We also encourage international students to join us; http://www.montana.edu/international/