

Program Overview: Bachelor of Applied Science Computer Information Systems

About This Major . . .

The Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Computer Information Systems degree combines the technical skills and business proficiency necessary for success in today's business world. A unique program, the BAS allows students who have already earned an associate of applied science degree to build upon their technical skills with general education courses and junior and senior level computer information courses. This allows associate of science degree holders to earn a 4-year degree in approximately four additional full-time semesters, depending upon prior coursework.

Computer Information Systems courses to be taken include coursework in project management, systems analysis and design, database administration, networking, electronic commerce, productivity tools, decision support, and systems development and implementation, including programming and information systems theory. Students will be technically and academically prepared for leadership positions within the information technology functional areas in their chosen industries. With the ever-expanding world information systems market, this degree has endless opportunities and will provide students with upward mobility in their area of employment as they move into supervision/management positions.

All CMU baccalaureate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning.

In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Critical Thinking Skills: Apply business knowledge and skills in appropriate business contexts and transfer knowledge and skills to new business situations.
2. Communication Skills: Independently communicate clearly, appropriately, and persuasively to the audience, both orally and in writing.
3. Quantitative fluency: Analyze business data critically, reason logically, and apply quantitative analysis methods correctly to develop appropriate business conclusions.
4. Strategic Application of Information: Strategically apply information across functional business areas.
5. Team Work: Effectively work in a team.
6. General Business Knowledge: Integrate knowledge from multiple functional areas of business to solve business problems and to develop sound business strategies.
7. Work Products: Produce professional business work products.
8. Identify, formulate and correctly solve information systems problems. (Specialized Knowledge)

Program Highlights:

Graduates of this program currently hold the following positions: systems analyst, database administrator, network administrator, programmer/analyst, and help desk specialist.

At the national Association of Information Technology Professionals competition, students have won several top-ten awards annually, demonstrating the knowledge and skills acquired through this program.

Computer Heroes provides students with an opportunity for hands-on experience. The campus and local community can bring in a "sick" computer and, for a donation, students fix the computer. Under the mentorship of faculty, students are able to combine classroom knowledge with practical application.

Internships are available for juniors and seniors at local, regional, and international companies.

Specialized classroom space allows students access to work with networks, servers, and computer hardware, as well as specialized software.

A solid base in business enables students to gain the necessary knowledge to work across the functional areas of business in today's global environment.



Program Requirements

A student must follow CMU graduation requirements by completing 120 semester credit hours, including 33 credits of coursework at the 300+ level. See the “Undergraduate Graduation Requirements” in the catalog for additional graduation information. Students should work closely with a faculty advisor when selecting and scheduling courses prior to registration. In general, CMU’s programs of study are based on two curriculum groups:

1. Essential Learning

CMU’s Essential Learning program provides the foundation of skills and information that cuts across all fields of study and the support for advanced concepts that students will later encounter in their majors. Before moving into work at the 300+ level, students complete the Maverick Milestone and its co-requirement, Essential Speech. This pair of courses is a capstone experience where students integrate what they have learned from their foundation courses by making connections among diverse areas of knowledge. The capstone is also an opportunity for students to work with disparate ideas, a critical skill expected of all CMU graduates that will aid them in solving the complex and unscripted problems they will encounter in their personal, professional, and civic lives.

2. What You Will Study in This Major . . .

Computer Information Systems Core Classes

These courses provide a solid basis for upper division business classes and focus in functional areas.

- Economics
- Business Analysis
- Business Database Application Programming
- Advanced Business Software
- Fundamentals of Information Systems
- Enterprise Architecture
- Information Systems Infrastructure
- Advanced Business Programming
- Quantitative Decision Making

Concentration Requirements

These courses will provide the basis for study in the ever-evolving field of computer information systems. Analysis, critical thinking, and communication are key skills any effective business person needs in today’s workplace.

Required

Associate of Applied Science core, which contains 36 hours from a regionally-accredited institution offering an AAS degree in Business or closely-related field.

Electives from which to choose

- Internships
- Risk Management
- International Business
- Compensation and Rewards
- Promotion

Electives

The electives for this degree are taken in the context of the required AAS. In addition, 8 semester hours or sufficient hours to bring the total hours to 120 hours are required. 33 of the 120 hours must be upper-division.

These 8 hours (or more in some instances) can be taken across the business curriculum in areas that will complement both the already-earned 2-year degree and the in-progress 4-year degree.

For more information about this major, go to: <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/business/degrees.html> or contact the Academic Department Head for Business, 309 Dominguez Hall, 970.248.1778.