COMPUTER SCIENCE

Contact Information

Computer Science
https://www.cs.rice.edu/
3122 Duncan Hall
713-348-4834

Luay Nakhleh
Department Chair
nakhleh@rice.edu

Alan L. Cox
Undergraduate Committee Chair
alc@rice.edu

T. S. Eugene Ng
Graduate Committee Chair
eugeneng@rice.edu

Computer science is concerned with the study of computers and computing, focusing on algorithms, programs and programming, and computational systems. The main goal of the discipline is to build a systematic body of knowledge, theories, and models that explain the properties of computational systems and to show how this body of knowledge can be used to produce solutions to real-world computational problems.

Computer science is the intellectual discipline underlying information technology, which is widely accepted now as the ascendant technology of the next century. Students in computer science at Rice benefit from the latest in equipment and ideas as well as the flexibility of the educational programs. The research interests of the faculty include algorithms and complexity, artificial intelligence and robotics, compilers, distributed and parallel computation, graphics and visualization, operating systems, and programming languages.

The department offers two undergraduate degrees: the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree and the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS) degree.

At the graduate level, the department offers a PhD degree as well as two master’s degrees: the professional Master of Computer Science (MCS) degree and the research-oriented Master of Science (MS) degree.

- The MCS degree is a professional degree for students intending to pursue a technical career. The MCS degree has both an on-premise and a fully online option. Students are admitted directly into one or the other option and cannot switch between the two, but the resulting degree is the same.
- The MS degree is a research degree requiring a thesis in addition to coursework. The MS degree is primarily for students pursuing their PhD. Typically, students are not admitted directly to the MS program. Students wishing to pursue a terminal master’s degree should apply to the MCS program.
- Students wishing to pursue a PhD should apply directly to the PhD program.

A coordinated MBA/MCS degrees program is also offered in conjunction with the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business.

Bachelor’s Programs
- Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in Computer Science (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/computer-science/computer-science-ba/)
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS) Degree (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/computer-science/computer-science-bscs/)

Master’s Programs
- Master of Computer Science (MCS) Degree (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/computer-science/computer-science-mcs/)
- Master of Computer Science (MCS) Degree, Online Program (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/computer-science/computer-science-mcs-online/)
- Master of Science (MS) Degree in the field of Computer Science (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/computer-science/computer-science-ms/)

Doctoral Program
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree in the field of Computer Science (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/computer-science/computer-science-phd/)

Coordinated Programs
- Master of Computer Science (MCS) Degree / Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/computer-science/business-administration-mba-computer-science-mcs/)

Chair
Luay K. Nakhleh

Professors
Robert S. Cartwright, Jr.
Keith D. Cooper
Alan L. Cox
Ronald N. Goldman
Christopher M. Jermaine
David B. Johnson
Lydia Kavraki
John M. Mellor-Crummey
Luay K. Nakhleh
T. S. Eugene Ng
Krishna Palem
Scott Rixner
Devika Subramanian
Moshe Vardi
Dan Seth Wallach
Joe D. Warren

Associate Professors
Swarat Chaudhuri

Assistant Professors
Ang Chen
Nathan Dautenhahn
Research Professor
Vivek Sarkar

Professors in the Practice
Scott E. Cutler

Lecturers
John Greiner
Mackale Joyner
Risa Myers
Stephen Wong

Professors, Joint Appointments
Richard G. Baraniuk
Joseph R. Cavallaro
Edward W. Knightly
Andrew J. Schaefer
Peter J. Varman

Associate Professors, Joint Appointment
Genevera I. Allen
Ashok Veeraraghavan

Assistant Professors, Joint Appointments
Ankit Patel
Akane Sano

Adjunct Professors
Wah Chiu
Jack Dongarra
Steven J. Wallach

Adjunct Associate Professor
Ken Chen
Matthew Knepley

Adjunct Assistant Professors
Julia Badger
Erez Lieberman-Aiden

Postdoctoral Research Associates
Dinler Antunes
Dipak Chaudhari
Didier Devaurs
Dror Fried
Juan Hernandez-Vega
Huw Ogilvie
Abdullah Al Redwan Newaz

Research Scientists and Programmers
Laksono Adhianto
Zoran Budimlic

For Rice University degree-granting programs:
To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice’s Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cat)
To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat)

Computer Science (COMP)

COMP 100 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Short Title: INTRO COMPUTING & INFO SYS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Distribution Group: Distribution Group III
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: An introduction to organizing, analyzing, and presenting information using databases and spreadsheets. No programming involved, and no computing background expected.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp100/ (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp100/)

COMP 105 - AP/OTH CREDIT COMPUTER SCIENCE
Short Title: AP/OTH CREDIT COMPUTER SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Transfer Courses
Course Type: Transfer
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course provides credit for students who have successfully completed approved examinations, such as Advanced Placement exams. This credit counts toward the total credit hours required for graduation.
COMP 160 - INTRODUCTION TO GAME PROGRAMMING IN PYTHON
Short Title: INTRO TO GAME PROG IN PYTHON
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Distribution Group: Distribution Group III
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Students with a class of Junior or Senior may not enroll. Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This class covers the basics of Python Programming with a focus on building simple games in a web-based environment. The class includes an introduction to event-driven programming and trains the students in the specifics of a Python GUI system designed to support creating to support creating applications that run in a web browser. This course is limited to first-year students only. Continuing Students may register with an approved Special Registration Form. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Java Experience.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp160 (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp160/)

COMP 162 - INTRODUCTION TO GAME CONTENT CREATION
Short Title: INTRO TO GAME CONTENT CREATION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Explore how modern game content is created, and how it interacts with the underlying technology. Beginning with an explanation of how games are developed and what role content plays in the process, the class will learn to use 3D Studio Max, Photoshop, and game-native scripting as they create working content for an established game project.
Course URL: www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp162 (http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp162/)

COMP 180 - PRINCIPLES OF COMPUTING
Short Title: PRINCIPLES OF COMPUTING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Distribution Group: Distribution Group III
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 130 or COMP 140 or COMP 160
Description: This class is designed for non-majors interested in a broader understanding of Computer Science and focuses on intermediate-level programming in Python as well as the basics of discrete math. The class concludes with an introduction to the process of Algorithmic Thinking. Note that COMP 180 cannot be substituted for COMP 182 as a prerequisite for upper level CS classes. Instructor Permission Required.

COMP 182 - ALGORITHMIC THINKING
Short Title: ALGORITHMIC THINKING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 130 or COMP 140 or COMP 160
Description: Algorithms are the engines of a great majority of systems, natural and artificial alike. This course introduces algorithmic thinking as a discipline for reasoning about systems, taming their complexities, and elucidating their properties. Algorithmic techniques, along with their correctness and efficiency, will be taught through reasoning about systems of interactions, such as markets, that are ubiquitous in our highly connected world.
COMP 200 - ELEMENTS OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
Short Title: ELEMENTS OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group III
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Broad introduction to major topics in computer science. Includes algorithms, mathematical models of computation, machine organization and design, programming languages, communication, and artificial intelligence. This course is intended for majors outside of Science and Engineering.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp200/ (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp200/)

COMP 215 - INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAM DESIGN
Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAM DESIGN
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 182
Description: This course covers the principles of programming and program design. The course is organized around a number of individual programming assignments that fit together to complete a significant, real-world application. Each assignment emphasizes one or more of the basic principles of software design, including: encapsulation, abstraction, test-driven development, and functional and object-oriented programming. The Java programming language will be used. An introduction to the basics of the Java language itself (including Java syntax and semantics) will be provided.

COMP 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 290 - COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS
Short Title: COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Theoretical and experimental investigations under staff direction. Credit cannot be received for both COMP 290 and COMP 390. Instructor Permission Required. Equivalency: COMP 390. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 290 if student has credit for COMP 390. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 300 - SOCIETY IN THE INFORMATION AGE
Short Title: SOCIETY IN THE INFORMATION AGE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group III
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: We will review the remarkable technology of the Information Age and examine its effects on the ways in which we live, work and think about the world around us. We will consider, for example, how the pervasive use of computers and networks is changing our ideas about property, privacy, authority, social relations, knowledge and identity. And we will discuss what further changes we might see as technology continues to advance.

COMP 301 - ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
Short Title: ETHICS & ACCOUNTABILITY IN CS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Computer Science. Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Given their growing power in the twenty-first century, computer scientists have duties both to society and their own profession to wield that power wisely and responsibly. In this discussion-and reflection-oriented course students will apply fundamentals of moral philosophy and social responsibility to current issues in computer science.
COMP 310 - ADVANCED OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING AND DESIGN
Short Title: ADV OBJECT-ORIENTED PROG
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 211 or COMP 215
Description: Discover how state-of-the-art object-orient programming and design techniques can create globe-spanning software systems that are both flexible and scalable. Learn how software design patterns are used in multiple programming paradigms. Explore highly decoupled systems with dynamically configurable behaviors. Highly recommended for anyone interested in building large systems and software engineering. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 310 if student has credit for COMP 504.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp310 (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp310/)

COMP 311 - FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING
Short Title: FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 211 or COMP 215
Description: An introduction to concepts, principles, and approaches of functional programming. Functional programming is a style of programming where the key means of computation is the application of functions to arguments (which themselves might be functions). This style of programming has become increasingly popular in recent years because it offers important advantages in designing, maintaining, and reasoning about programs in many modern contexts such as web services, multicore programming, and cluster computing. Course work consists of a series of programming assignments in the Scala programming language and various library extensions such as Apache Spark. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 544. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 311 if student has credit for COMP 544.
Course URL: wiki.rice.edu/confluence/display/PARPROG/COMP311 (http://wiki.rice.edu/confluence/display/PARPROG/COMP311/)

COMP 316 - VIRTUAL RECONSTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL CITIES
Short Title: VIRTL RECONSTR HISTORCL CITIES
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course, part of the HRC's Digital Humanities Initiative, is devoted to the virtual reconstruction of ancient urban landscapes with focus on individual buildings in their urban settings. All course activities will be based around interdisciplinary student teams who will work together through the semesters to complete a virtual reconstruction project. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: ANTH 346, ARCH 310, HART 316.

COMP 321 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Short Title: INTRO TO COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): ELEC 220 and (COMP 211 or COMP 215)
Description: This course introduces computer systems from the programmer's perspective. Topics include data representation, the compilation process, and system-level programming concepts such as interrupts and concurrency. Formerly COMP 221. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 321 if student has credit for COMP 221.

COMP 322 - PRINCIPLES OF PARALLEL PROGRAMMING
Short Title: FUNDAMENTALS OF PARALLEL PROG
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 211 or COMP 215
Description: Fundamentals of parallel programming: abstract models of parallel computers, parallel algorithms and data structures, and common parallel programming patterns including task parallelism, undirected and directed synchronization, data parallelism, divide-and-conquer parallelism, and map-reduce. Laboratory assignments will explore these topics through the use of parallel extensions to the Java language. Cross-list: ELEC 323.
COMP 323 - INTRODUCTION TO MATHEMATICAL CRYPTOGRAPHY  
**Short Title:** INTRO TO MATH CRYPTOGRAPHY  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 382 or COMP 448 or MATH 448 or MATH 365  
**Description:** The course introduces students to modern cryptographic techniques, focusing mainly on mathematical tools. The course covers topics such as Diffie-Hellman key exchange, the ElGamal public key crypto system, integer factorization and RSA, and elliptic curves and lattices in cryptography.

COMP 326 - DIGITAL LOGIC DESIGN  
**Short Title:** DIGITAL LOGIC DESIGN  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** ELEC 220  
**Description:** Study of gates, flip-flops, combinational and sequential switching circuits, registers, logical and arithmetic operations, introduction to the Verilog hardware description language. Cross-list: ELEC 326.

COMP 327 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SECURITY  
**Short Title:** INTRO TO COMPUTER SECURITY  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 310 or COMP 314 or ELEC 322  
**Description:** This elective course covers a wide variety of topics in computer security, including hands-on experience with breaking software and engineering software to be harder to break. For example, students will perform buffer overflow attacks and exploit web application vulnerabilities, while also learning how to defend against them. Grades will be based on a series of in-class projects. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 427, COMP 541. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 327 if student has credit for COMP 427/COMP 541.

COMP 330 - TOOLS AND MODELS FOR DATA SCIENCE  
**Short Title:** TOOLS & MODELS - DATA SCIENCE  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 140 and (MATH 212 or MATH 222)  
**Description:** The course is an intermediate level course in data science for students at the sophomore level with some experience in programming and background in mathematics (calculus). The course teaches students to “do” data science in Python using six modules to illustrate fundamental data science operations, data cleaning, model exploration, model formulation, model visualization, model communication. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 182.

COMP 340 - STATISTICAL MODELS AND ALGORITHMS FOR DATA SCIENCE  
**Short Title:** STATISTICAL MODELS FOR DS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 182 and (STAT 310 or ECON 307 or STAT 315 or MATH 211 or MATH 221) and COMP 215  
**Description:** This course is an introduction to modern data science. Data science is the study of how to extract actionable, non-trivial knowledge from data. The proposed course will focus both on the software tools used by practitioners of modern data science, as well as the mathematical and statistical models that are employed in conjunction with such software tools. On the tools side, we will cover the basics of relational database systems, as well as modern systems for distributed computing based on MapReduce. On the models side, the course will cover standard supervised and unsupervised models for data analysis and pattern discovery. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 543. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 330 if student has credit for COMP 543.

COMP 347 - COMPUTATIONAL GENOMICS FOR MICROBIAL FORENSICS  
**Short Title:** COMPUTATIONAL GENOMICS FOR MICROBIAL FORENSICS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 182 and (STAT 310 or ECON 307 or STAT 315 or SCI 530)  
**Description:** We will review, critique, and discuss computational methods and approaches for microbial forensics and infectious disease monitoring in the genomics era. The seminar will be divided into topic-specific sessions, focusing on emerging research trends and open challenges in the field. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 547. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 347 if student has credit for COMP 547.
COMP 360 - COMPUTER GRAPHICS
Short Title: COMPUTER GRAPHICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 221 or COMP 321) and (COMP 182 or COMP 280) and (MATH 211 or MATH 212 or MATH 221 or MATH 222) and (MATH 354 or MATH 355)
Description: 2D graphics techniques including fast line and curve drawing and polygon filling. 3D graphics problems including representation of solids, shading, and hidden surface elimination. Fractals, graphics standards. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 560. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 360 if student has credit for COMP 560.
Course URL: www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp360/ (http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp360/)

COMP 361 - GEOMETRIC MODELING
Short Title: GEOMETRIC MODELING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): (MATH 101 or MATH 105) and (MATH 102 or MATH 106) and COMP 182 and COMP 215
Description: Exploration of curves and surfaces (e.g. parametric form, implicit form, and conversion between forms), the representation of solid (e.g., wireframes, octrees, boundary representations, and constructive solid geometry), and applications (e.g., graphics, motion planning, simulation, and finite element mesh generation. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 561. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 380 - PRACTICAL PROBLEM-SOLVING
Short Title: PRACTICAL PROBLEM-SOLVING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 182
Description: We introduce algorithms, algorithmic techniques, and some discrete math with a decidedly practical bent. This will improve anyone's programming skills, but with specific application towards programming contests and programming-oriented job interviews. This also provides optional additional preparation for COMP 382. Features both individual and small-group exercises in a hands-on class.

COMP 382 - REASONING ABOUT ALGORITHMS
Short Title: REASONING ABOUT ALGORITHMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 182
Description: Writing algorithms is fun, but how are you sure that the algorithm you wrote is flawless? Are there computing tasks for which it is impossible to produce an efficient algorithm, or, for that matter, any algorithm? To answer these questions, you have to learn to perform mathematical reasoning about algorithmic problems and solutions COMP 382 is an introduction to such reasoning techniques. Topics covered would include elementary logic, analysis of the correctness and efficiency of algorithms, and formal computational models like finite automata and Turning machines. On the way, you are also going to learn some new algorithm design techniques.

COMP 390 - COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS
Short Title: COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Theoretical and experimental investigations under staff direction. Credit cannot be received for both COMP 290 and COMP 390. Instructor Permission Required. Equivalency: COMP 290. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 390 if student has credit for COMP 290. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 402 - PRODUCTION PROGRAMMING
Short Title: PRODUCTION PROGRAMMING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 or COMP 411 or COMP 510 or COMP 511
Description: This course focuses on the principles and practices of test-driven software development, which have been popularized under the banner of "Extreme Programming." To provide students with practical experience, the course engages students in the development of open source production programs written in JAVA or C#. The DRJAVA programming courses was developed by students in this course. Some of the major topics covered in course lectures include design patterns for controlling concurrency and refactoring transformations to improve legacy code. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 501. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 402 if student has credit for COMP 501.
COMP 403 - REASONING AND SOFTWARE
Short Title: REASONING ABOUT SOFTWARE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 392 and COMP 215) or COMP 482 or COMP 409 or COMP 509
Description: This course will explore the mathematical underpinnings of reliable software. The students will learn how to use proof assistants to construct software along with a machine-checkable proof of its correctness. Basic concepts of logic, functional programming, static type systems and deductive verification will be covered. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 548.

COMP 409 - ADVANCED LOGIC IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
Short Title: ADV LOGIC IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 211 or COMP 215) and (COMP 182 or COMP 280)
Description: Logic has been called "the calculus of computer science". The argument is that logic plays a fundamental role in computer science, similar to that played by calculus in the physical sciences and traditional engineering disciplines. Indeed, logic plays an important role in areas of Computer Science as disparate as artificial intelligence (automated reasoning), architecture (logic gates), software engineering (specification and verification), programming languages (semantics, logic programming), databases (relational algebra and SQL), algorithms (complexity and expressiveness), and theory of computation (general notions of computability). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 509. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 409 if student has credit for COMP 509.

Course URL: www.cs.rice.edu/~vardi/comp409/ (http://www.cs.rice.edu/~vardi/comp409/)

COMP 410 - SOFTWARE ENGINEERING METHODOLOGY
Short Title: SOFTWARE ENGINEER METHODOLOGY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 or COMP 314
Description: COMP 410 is a pure discovery-based learning course designed to give students real-life, hands-on training in a wide variety of software engineering issues that arise in creating large-scale, state-of-the-art software systems. The class forms a small software "company" that works to deliver a product to a customer. The topics encountered include and are not limited to, dealing with new technologies (e.g. C#, .NET, distributed computing), advanced object-oriented programming and design, interacting with customers, problem specification and tasking, individual and group communications, human resource management, group leadership, testing, integration and documentation. Traditional development cycle methodologies will be compared to recent, "agile" techniques. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 539. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 410 if student has credit for COMP 539.

Course URL: www.bandgap.cs.rice.edu/classes/comp410 (http://www.bandgap.cs.rice.edu/classes/comp410/)
COMP 411 - PRINCIPLES OF PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Short Title: PRINCIPLES OF PROG LANGUAGES
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 211 or COMP 310
Description: The design, definition and abstract implementation of programming languages including methods for precisely specifying syntax and semantics. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 511. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 411 if student has credit for COMP 511.

COMP 412 - COMPILER CONSTRUCTION FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Short Title: COMPILER CONSTRUCTION - UG
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 314 or ELEC 322 or COMP 310 or COMP 215) and (COMP 221 or COMP 321)
Description: Topics in the design of programming language translators, including parsing, run-time storage management, error recovery, code generation and optimization. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 506. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 412 or COMP 506. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 412 if student has credit for COMP 506.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp412 (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp412/)

COMP 413 - DISTRIBUTED PROGRAM CONSTRUCTION

Short Title: DISTRIB PROGRAM CONSTRUCTION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 310
Description: This course focuses on modern principles for the construction of distributed programs, with an emphasis on design patterns, modern programming tools, and distributed object systems. The material will be applied in a substantial software design/construction project.

COMP 414 - OPTIMIZATION: ALGORITHMS, COMPLEXITY AND APPROXIMATIONS

Short Title: ALGORITHMS, COMPLEX. & APPROX
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: The main focus of the course will be on smooth optimization techniques, with applications in machine learning and artificial intelligence. The course will introduce the basics of algorithms on continuous optimization, starting from the classical gradient descent algorithm in convex optimization, towards more sophisticated approaches in non-convex scenarios. The course will explore the fundamental theory, algorithms, complexity and approximations in nonlinear optimization. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 514. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 414 if student has credit for COMP 514.

COMP 415 - REAL-WORLD SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Short Title: REAL-WORLD SOFTWARE DEVELOPMNT
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 410
Description: Experience real customers, software, and situations. The class will be contracted by an industrial customer to design build, and deliver a product. Negotiate to finalize specifications, updates, and delivery schedules. Encounter real-life issues such as team management, intellectual property, and vagueness and specification changes while developing a state-of-the-art software application.
Course URL: www.bandgap.cs.rice.edu/classes/comp415 (http://www.bandgap.cs.rice.edu/classes/comp415/)

COMP 416 - GENOME-SCALE ALGORITHMS AND DATA STRUCTURES

Short Title: GENOME-SCALE ALGORITHMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 182
Description: Since the advent of Sanger Sequencing in 1977, computer scientists have been devising algorithms and software tools to interpret and analyze DNA sequences. The field of bioinformatics focuses on computational approaches to solving biological questions. This course will serve as an introduction to widely used algorithms in bioinformatics used for pattern searching, genome assembly, sequence alignment, and clustering of biological data. No prior knowledge of biology is assumed. The class involves several programming assignments. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 519.
COMP 420 - PARALLEL COMPUTING
Short Title: PARALLEL COMPUTING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 215 and (COMP 221 or COMP 321)
Description: COMP 422 is an undergraduate version of this course. COMP 422 students will have four programming assignments. COMP 534 students will have five. As part of their assignments, both COMP 422 and COMP 534 students will analyze the scalability and parallel efficiency of parallel programs they write. COMP 534 students will additionally use tools to qualify the root causes of scaling losses in their programs and document their findings. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 521. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 422 if student has credit for COMP 521.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp421/ (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp421/)

COMP 421 - OPERATING SYSTEMS AND CONCURRENT PROGRAMMING
Short Title: OPER SYS/CONCURRENT PROGRAMMING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 215 and (COMP 221 or COMP 321)
Description: Introduction to the design, construction, and analysis of concurrent programs with an emphasis on operating systems, including filing systems, schedulers, and memory allocators. Specific attention is devoted to process synchronization and communication within concurrent programs. Cross-list: ELEC 421. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 521. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 421 if student has credit for COMP 521.
Course URL: www.ruf.rice.edu/~mobile/elec424/ (http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~mobile/elec424/)
COMP 425 - COMPUTER SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE
Short Title: COMPUTER SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): ELEC 326 or COMP 326
Description: Evolution of key architecture concepts found in advanced uniprocessor systems. Fundamental and advanced pipelining techniques and associated issues for improving processor performance. Illustrated with RISC processors such as the ARM processor. Examine several metrics for processor performance, such as Amdahl's law. Key concepts of data and program memory systems found in modern systems with memory hierarchies and caches. Perform experiments in cache performance analysis. Influence of technology trends, such as Moore's law, on processor implementation Approaches for exploiting instruction level parallelism, such as VLIX. Introduction to parallel and multicore architectures. Introduction to processor architectures targeted for embedded applications. Cross-list: ELEC 425. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 554. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 425 if student has credit for COMP 554.

COMP 427 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SECURITY
Short Title: INTRO TO COMPUTER SECURITY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 and COMP 321
Description: This elective course covers a wide variety of topics in computer security, including hands-on experience w/breaking software & engineering software to be harder to break. For example, students will perform buffer overflow attacks & exploit web application vulnerabilities, while also learning how to defend against them. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 327, COMP 541. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 427 if student has credit for COMP 327/COMP 541.

COMP 429 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER NETWORKS
Short Title: INTRO TO COMPUTER NETWORKS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 221 or COMP 321
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp429/ (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp429/)

COMP 430 - INTRODUCTION TO DATABASE SYSTEMS
Short Title: INTRO TO DATABASE SYSTEMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 211 or COMP 215) and (COMP 182 or COMP 280)
Description: Introduction to relational and other database systems, SQL programming, Database application programming, and Database design. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 533. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 430 if student has credit for COMP 533.

COMP 431 - WEB DEVELOPMENT
Short Title: WEB DEVELOPMENT
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: In this project-based course, students create multi-user Web applications involving all aspects of application development from front-end and back-end programming to interfacing client-server communications technologies. Class time includes discussions of topics in Web development, structural frameworks, test driven development, and time for students to develop their Web applications. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 531. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 or COMP 321 Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 431 if student has credit for COMP 531.

COMP 435 - ELECTION SYSTEMS, TECHNOLOGIES, AND ADMINISTRATION
Short Title: ELECTION SYSTEMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group III
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): POLI 395
Description: This multidisciplinary course will consider how elections are conducted to enhance participation, to accurately measure the will of the electorate, and to be sufficiently rigorous to convince all parties that the results are legitimate. This course will consider the design and evaluation of election technologies, ranging from voter registration through the polling booth and vote tabulation. This course will consider three questions: how do individual voters interact with the voting technology, how are voting technologies engineered to be accurate and secure, and how do the social aspects of voting fulfill democratic goals for elections? A central requirement for this course will be group research projects, many operating in our community, built around the November election. Cross-list: POLI 420, PSYC 420.
COMP 440 - ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Short Title: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 and (STAT 310 or ECON 307 or ECON 382 or STAT 312 or STAT 331 or ELEC 331 or ELEC 303) and (MATH 354 or MATH 355 or CAAM 335)
Description: This is a foundational course in artificial intelligence, the discipline of designing intelligent agents. The course will cover the design and analysis of agents that do the right thing in the face of limited information and computational resources. The course revolves around two main questions: how agents decide what to do, and how they learn from experience. Tools from computer science, probability theory, and game theory will be used. Interesting examples of intelligent agents will be covered, including poker playing programs, bots for various games (e.g. WoW), DS1 – the spacecraft that performed an autonomous flyby of Comet Borrelly in 2001, Stanley – the Stanford robot car that won the Darpa Grand Challenge, Google Maps and how it calculates driving directions, face and handwriting recognizers, Fedex package delivery planners, airline fare prediction sites, and fraud detectors in financial transactions. Cross-list: ELEC 440. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 557. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 440 if student has credit for COMP 557.
Course URL: www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp440 (http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp440/)

COMP 441 - LARGE-SCALE MACHINE LEARNING
Short Title: LARGE-SCALE MACHINE LEARNING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 440 or ELEC 440
Description: Learning from large dataset is becoming a ubiquitous phenomena in all applications spanning robotics, medical decisions, internet, communication, biology, etc. Designed to give senior UG students a thorough grounding in the theory and algorithms needed for research and practical applications in machine learning for modern massive datasets. Topics draw from machine learning, classical statistics, algorithms and information theory. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 542. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 441 if student has credit for COMP 542.

COMP 444 - MOBILE DEVICE APPLICATIONS
Short Title: MOBILE DEVICE APPLICATIONS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Connected mobile devices require updated programming models and design concepts to take advantage of their capabilities. We will explore applications primarily on the Apple iPhone and iPad but will also cover smart watches, Google Android and intelligent voice assistants like Amazon Echo and Google Home. We will briefly touch on the development of web services to support mobile applications. The course culminates with a large project taking up most of the second half of the semester. Although the curriculum centers around and teaches iOS and Xcode, final projects may be completed in any major mobile system including Android and Alexa, etc. Cross-list: ELEC 446. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 or prior Object Oriented Programming experience highly recommended.

COMP 447 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER VISION
Short Title: INTRO TO COMPUTER VISION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): ELEC 301 or ELEC 475 or COMP 314 or ELEC 322 or COMP 330
Description: An introduction to the basic concepts, algorithms and applications in computer vision. Topics include: cameras, camera models and imaging pipeline, low-level vision/image processing methods such as filtering and edge detection; mid-level vision topics such as segmentation and clustering; shape reconstruction from stereo, introduction to high-level vision tasks such as object recognition and face recognition. The course will involve programming and implementing basic computer vision algorithms in Matlab. Cross-list: ELEC 447. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 546. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 447 if student has credit for COMP 345/COMP 546.
COMP 448 - CONCRETE MATHEMATICS  
Short Title: CONCRETE MATHEMATICS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Prerequisite(s): COMP 182 or MATH 220 or MATH 221 or MATH 302 or MATH 354  
Description: Concrete mathematics is a blend of continuous and discrete mathematics. Major topics include sums, recurrences, integer functions, elementary number theory, binomial coefficients, generating functions, discrete probability and asymptotic methods. Cross-list: MATH 448.

COMP 449 - APPLIED MACHINE LEARNING AND DATA SCIENCE PROJECTS  
Short Title: DATA SCIENCE PROJECTS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: In this project-based course, student teams will complete semester-long data science research or analysis projects selected from a variety of disciplines and industries. Students will also learn best practices in data science. Cross-list: DSCI 435. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 549. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 449 if student has credit for COMP 549. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 450 - ALGORITHMIC ROBOTICS  
Short Title: ALGORITHMIC ROBOTICS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 221 or COMP 321) and COMP 215  
Description: Robots have fascinated people for generations. Today, robots are built for applications as diverse as exploring remote planets, de-mining war zones, cleaning toxic waste, assembling cars, inspecting pipes in industrial plants and mowing lawns. Robots are also interacting with humans in a variety of ways: robots are museum guides, robots assist surgeons in life threatening operations, and robotic cars can drive us around. The field of robotics studies not only the design of new mechanisms but also the development of artificial intelligence frameworks to make these mechanism useful in the physical world, integrating computer science, engineering, mathematics and more recently biology and sociology, in a unique way. This class will present fundamental algorithmic advances that enable today’s robots to move in real environments and plan their actions. It will also explore fundamentals of the field of Artificial Intelligence through the prism of robotics. The class involves a significant programming project. Cross-list: ELEC 450, MECH 450. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 550. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 450 if student has credit for COMP 550.

COMP 451 - DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS  
Short Title: DESIGN&ANALYSIS CYBER/PHYSICAL  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course is an introduction to cyber-physical systems, engineering artifacts in which computational components interact with and typically control physical components. Some common examples of cyber-physical systems include robots, Segways and lane-departure warning, LDW, systems in automobiles. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 555. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 451 if student has credit for COMP 555.

COMP 460 - ADVANCED COMPUTER GAME CREATION  
Short Title: ADV COMPUTER GRAPHICS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This project-based class involves teams of 2-4 CS and Visual Arts students designing and building computer games suitable for Xbox Live Arcade using C# and XNA. For CS students, Comp 160 or Comp 360 is recommended as a prerequisite. For Visual Arts students, previous experience in drawing using Photoshop is suggested. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: ARTS 460. Repeatable for Credit.  
Course URL: www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp460 (http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp460/)

COMP 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS  
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Lecture, Laboratory, Seminar  
Credit Hours: 1-4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: Topics/requirements/credit hours may vary each semester. Contact Department for current semester’s topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 480 - PROBABILISTIC ALGORITHMS AND DATA STRUCTURE  
Short Title: PROBABILISTIC ALGORITHMS AND D  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course will be ideal for someone wanting to build a strong foundation in the theory and practice of algorithms for processing Big-Data. We will discuss advanced data structures and algorithms going beyond deterministic setting and emphasize the role of randomness in getting significant, often exponential, improvements in computations and memory. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 580. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 382
**COMP 481 - AUTOMATA, FORMAL LANGUAGES, AND COMPUTABILITY**  
**Short Title:** AUTOMATA/FORMAL LANG/COMPUTING  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** Finite automata, regular expressions, regular languages, pushdown automata, context-free languages, Turing machines, recursive languages, computability, and solvability. It is strongly recommended that students complete three semesters of Mathematics before enrolling in this course. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 581. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 481 if student has credit for COMP 581.

**COMP 485 - FUNDAMENTALS OF MEDICAL IMAGING I**  
**Short Title:** FUND MEDICAL IMAGING I  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** This course will introduce basic principles of image acquisition, formation and processing of several medical imaging modalities such as X-Ray, CT, MRI, and US that are used to evaluate the human anatomy. The course also includes visits to a clinical site to gain experience with the various imaging modalities covered in class. Cross-list: BIOE 485, ELEC 485. Recommended Prerequisite(s): MATH 211 and MATH 212.

**COMP 486 - FUNDAMENTALS OF MEDICAL IMAGING II**  
**Short Title:** FUND MEDICAL IMAGING II  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** ELEC 485 or BIOE 485 or COMP 485  
**Description:** This course focuses on functional imaging modalities used specifically in nuclear medicine such as Gamma cameras, SPECT, and PET imaging. The course will introduce the basic principles of image acquisition, formation, processing and the clinical applications of these imaging modalities and lays the foundations for understanding the principles of radiotracer kinetic modeling. A trip to a clinical site in also planned to gain experience with nuclear medicine imaging. Cross-list: BIOE 486, ELEC 486.

**COMP 487 - COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY**  
**Short Title:** COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 382 or COMP 409 or COMP 509 or COMP 481 or COMP 581  
**Description:** In Computational Complexity we study the computational resources (time, space, communication, etc.) that are required to solve computational problems via various computational needs. Specifically, we are interested in classifying computational problems with classes of other problems that require similar amount of resources to solve. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 587. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 487 if student has credit for COMP 587.

**COMP 490 - COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS**  
**Short Title:** COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Research  
**Credit Hours:** 1-4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** Theoretical and experimental investigation under staff direction. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

**COMP 491 - COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHING**  
**Short Title:** COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHING  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Independent Study  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** A combination of in-service teaching and a seminar. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

**COMP 496 - RTG CROSS-TRAINING IN DATA SCIENCE**  
**Short Title:** RTG CROSS-TRAINING IN DATA SCI  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Credit Hour:** 1  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Computer Science or Statistics. Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** A seminar course to introduce students to topics in Data Science at the interface between Statistics and Computer Science. Students participate in the process of preparing, delivering and critiquing talks. Topics change each semester. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: STAT 496. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 696. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 496 if student has credit for COMP 696. Repeatable for Credit.
COMP 498 - INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTICS
Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): COMP 300 or COMP 402 or COMP 501
Description: This course provides an introduction to robotics. Students learn about the design and operation of robotic systems. They will also study the fundamentals of control systems and sensors.

COMP 501 - PRODUCTION PROGRAMMING
Short Title: PRODUCTION PROGRAMMING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 or COMP 411 or COMP 510 or COMP 511
Description: This course focuses on principles and practices of test-driven software development, which have been popularized under the banner of "Extreme Programming." To provide students with practical experience, the course engages students in the development of open source production programs written in JAVA or C#. The DRJAVA programming courses were developed by students in this course. Some of the major topics covered in course lectures include design patterns for controlling concurrency and refactoring transformations to improve legacy code. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 402. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 501 if student has credit for COMP 402.

COMP 502 - NEURAL MACHINE LEARNING I
Short Title: NEURAL MACHINE LEARNING I
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 410 or COMP 411 or COMP 510 or COMP 511
Description: Review of major neural machine learning (Artificial Neural Network) paradigms. Analytical discussion of supervised and unsupervised learning algorithms and their relation to information theoretical methods. Practical applications to data analysis such as pattern recognition, clustering, classification, function approximation/regression, non-linear PCA, projection pursuit, independent component analysis, with lots of examples from image and digital processing. Details are posted at www.ece.rice.edu/~erzsebet/ANNcourse.html. Cross-list: ELEC 502, STAT 502. Recommended Prerequisite(s): ELEC 430 and ELEC 431 or equivalent or permission of instructor.
Course URL: www.ece.rice.edu/~erzsebet/ANNcourse.html

COMP 503 - REASONING AND SOFTWARE
Short Title: REASONING ABOUT SOFTWARE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 382 and COMP 215) or COMP 482 or COMP 409 or COMP 509
Description: Our reliance on software of all forms is increasing by the day. As a result, it is more important than ever to ensure that programs function correctly and cannot be exploited by hostile adversaries. The field of formal methods takes on this challenge, developing algorithms and programming methodologies that can be used to formally reason about what happens when software executes on arbitrary inputs, often without actually executing the program. Such reasoning can be used, for example, to identify subtle bugs and vulnerabilities in programs, or to give mathematical proofs of program correctness. This is a hands-on introduction to the field of formal methods. In this class, you will learn the theoretical foundations of these systems; you will also implement a series of systems that can be used to reason about the correctness of C programs. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 403. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 503 if student has credit for COMP 403.

COMP 504 - GRADUATE OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING AND DESIGN
Short Title: GR OBJ-ORIENTED PROG & DESIGN
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 382 and COMP 215 or COMP 482 or COMP 409 or COMP 509
Description: Discover how state-of-the-art object-oriented programming and design techniques can create globe-spanning software systems that are both flexible and scalable. Learn how software design patterns are used in multiple programming paradigms. Explore highly decoupled systems with dynamically configurable behaviors. Highly recommended for anyone interested in building large systems and software engineering. Basic proficiency in Java is required. Students may not receive credit for both COMP 310/510 and COMP 404/504. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 504 if student has credit for COMP 310/COMP 404/COMP 510.

COMP 505 - ADVANCED TOPICS IN OBJECT-ORIENTED DESIGN
Short Title: ADV TOP OBJECT/orIENTED DESIGN
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 404 or COMP 504 or COMP 310
Description: A topics-driven exploration of cutting-edge object oriented design issues and concepts including mutable recursive data frameworks, design patterns for sorting, parsing and games, service-oriented architectures and cloud computing. Detailed knowledge and practice in abstract structure and behavioral representations, delegation model programming, design patterns and Java are required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 405. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 505 if student has credit for COMP 405.
COMP 506 - COMPILER CONSTRUCTION FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS
Short Title: COMPILER CONSTRUCTION - GR
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Topics in the design of programming language translators, including parsing, run-time storage management, error recovery, code generation and optimization. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 412. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 506 if student has credit for COMP 412.

COMP 507 - COMPUTER-AIDED PROGRAM DESIGN
Short Title: COMPUTER-AIDED PROGRAM DESIGN
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 482 or ELEC 420) or COMP 481
Description: This course is a graduate-level introduction to computer-aided program design, a field that studies logical and algorithmic techniques for formally verifying programs, and mechanized derivation of programs that are correct by construction. Topics covered will include classical automated program verification in particular abstract interpretation and model checking - as well as recent developments in algorithmic program synthesis.

COMP 508 - DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF SECURE EMBEDDED SYSTEMS FOR IoT ERA
Short Title: SECURE EMBEDDED SYS FOR IoT
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: The course emphasizes the security of small embedded devices that are central to the Internet of Things (IoT) Era. We discuss the practical security attacks, challenges, constraints, and opportunities that arise in the IoT domain. Covered topics include security engineering, real world attacks, practical and side channel attacks, and hands-on lab/ projects. Cross-list: ELEC 511. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 509 - ADVANCED LOGIC IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
Short Title: ADV LOGIC IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Logic has been called “the calculus of computer science”. The argument is that logic plays a fundamental role in computer science, similar to that played by calculus in the physical sciences and traditional engineering disciplines. Indeed, logic plays an important role in areas of Computer Science as disparate as artificial intelligence (automated reasoning), architecture (logic gates), software engineering (specification and verification), programming languages (semantics, logic programming), databases (relational algebra and SQL), algorithms (complexity and expressiveness), and theory of computation (general notions of computability). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 409. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 509 if student has credit for COMP 409.

COMP 511 - PRINCIPLES OF PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES
Short Title: PRINCIPLES OF PROG LANGUAGES
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 211 or COMP 310
Description: The design, definition and abstract implementation of programming languages including methods for precisely specifying syntax and semantics. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 411. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 511 if student has credit for COMP 411.

COMP 512 - ADVANCED COMPILER CONSTRUCTION
Short Title: ADVANCED COMPILER CONSTRUCTION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Advanced topics in the design of an optimizing compiler. This course will focus on analysis and optimization of programs for uniprocessor machines, including program analysis (data-flow analysis, construction of static single-assignment form) and program transformation (redundancies, constant values, strength reduction, etc.). The course uses a variety of readings from the literature and includes an implementation project. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 412 or COMP 506.
Course URL: www.cs.rice.edu/~keith/512 (http://www.cs.rice.edu/~keith/512/)
COMP 513 - COMPLEXITY IN MODERN SYSTEMS  
Short Title: COMPLEXITY IN MODERN SYSTEMS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: A modern computer is a system with enormous complexity in both software and hardware. The course presents the principles for managing such complexity using examples from modern computing systems. It covers emergent issues from system complexity such as energy efficiency, bug finding, and heterogeneous hardware. It also covers designing experiments and writing systems papers. The course consists of lectures, student presentation of classic papers, and a final project. Cross-list: ELEC 513.

COMP 514 - OPTIMIZATION: ALGORITHMS, COMPLEXITY, AND APPROXIMATIONS  
Short Title: ALGORITHMS, COMPLEX. & APPROX  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: The main focus of the course will be on smooth optimization techniques, with applications in machine learning and artificial intelligence. The course will introduce the basics of algorithms on continuous optimization, starting from the classical gradient descent algorithm in convex optimization, towards more sophisticated approaches in non-convex scenarios. The course will explore the fundamental theory, algorithms, complexity and approximations in nonlinear optimization. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 414. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 514 if student has credit for COMP 414.

COMP 515 - ADVANCED COMPILATION FOR VECTOR PARALLEL PROCESSORS  
Short Title: ADV COMPILATION VECTOR PARALEL  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Prerequisite(s): COMP 412  
Description: Advanced compilation techniques for vector and parallel computer systems, including the analysis of program dependence, program transformations to enhance parallelism, compiler management of the memory hierarchy, interprocedural data flow analysis, and parallel debugging. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 412.

COMP 516 - CLOUD COMPUTING PRACTICUM  
Short Title: CLOUD COMPUTING PRACTICUM  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Prerequisite(s): COMP 413 or COMP 420 or (COMP 520 or ELEC 520)  
Description: This is a project-based class that provides students with the opportunity to apply their knowledge of distributed computing principles to designed and develop a single, large distributed application that utilizes the public cloud. Students will learn about the basic services for computing, storage, and commination that are supported by the new generation of "public utilities" that provide the infrastructure for the public cloud, and how to utilize these services to engineer a robust, scalable application.

COMP 517 - ADVANCED OPERATING SYSTEMS AND SECURITY  
Short Title: ADVANCED OPERATING SYSTEMS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: In this seminar, we will investigate advanced topics in the design and implementation of operating systems, including: OS structure (including Web Browsers), concurrency and synchronization, memory management, file systems and storage, virtual machines, and information protection. We will explore both fundamental and hot topics through reading, discussing, and presenting key research findings. This course will also cover methods for critiquing, writing, and presenting research findings through a course long project. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 417. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 517 if student has credit for COMP 417.

COMP 518 - IOT PROGRAMMING AND DATA ANALYSIS  
Short Title: IOT PROGRAM. AND DATA ANALYSIS  
Department: Computer Science  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Lecture  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: This course is an introduction to the Internet of Things (IoT). It will present the tools and techniques needed to develop complex IoT applications that encompass interaction with the physical world and data analysis across the IoT computing infrastructure. The topics range from programming microcontrollers (e.g., Arduino) and single-board computers (e.g., Raspberry Pi) to IoT automation and the efficient analysis of real-time IoT data. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 418.
COMP 519 - GENOME-SCALE ALGORITHMS AND DATA STRUCTURES  
**Short Title:** GENOME-SCALE ALGORITHMS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** Since the advent of Sanger Sequencing in 1977, computer scientists have been devising algorithms and software tools to interpret and analyze DNA sequences. The field of bioinformatics focuses on computational approaches to solving biological questions. This course will serve as an introduction to widely used algorithms in bioinformatics used for pattern searching, genome assembly, sequence alignment, and clustering of biological data. No prior knowledge of biology is assumed. The class involves several programming assignments. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 416.

COMP 520 - DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS  
**Short Title:** DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** Distributed systems: workstations, local area networks, server machines. Multiprocess structuring and interprocess communication. File access and memory management. User interfaces: window systems and command interpreters. Case studies of selected distributed systems. Emphasis on performance aspects of system software design. Cross-list: ELEC 520.  
**Course URL:** [www.cs.rice.edu/~alc/comp520/](http://www.cs.rice.edu/~alc/comp520/)

COMP 521 - OPERATING SYSTEMS AND CONCURRENT PROGRAMMING  
**Short Title:** OP SYS/CONCURRENT PROGRAMMING  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 215 and (COMP 221 or COMP 321)  
**Description:** Introduction to the design, construction, and analysis of concurrent programs with an emphasis on operating systems, including filing systems, schedulers, and memory allocators. Specific attention is devoted to process synchronization and communication within concurrent programs. Additional coursework required beyond the undergraduate course requirements. Cross-list: ELEC 521. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 421. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 521 if student has credit for COMP 421.

COMP 522 - MULTI-CORE COMPUTING  
**Short Title:** MULTI-CORE COMPUTING  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** (COMP 221 or COMP 321) and COMP 425  
**Description:** Multi-core microprocessors are becoming the norm. The course will focus on emerging multi-core processor architectures and challenges to using them effectively. Topics include multi-core microprocessors, memory hierarchy, synchronization, programming systems, scheduling, and transactional memory.  
**Course URL:** [www.cs.rice.edu/~johnmc/comp522/](http://www.cs.rice.edu/~johnmc/comp522/)

COMP 523 - INTRODUCTION TO MATHEMATICAL CRYPTOGRAPHY  
**Short Title:** INTRO TO MATH CRYPTOGRAPHY  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 182 or COMP 448 or MATH 448 or MATH 365  
**Description:** The course introduces students to modern cryptographic techniques, focusing mainly on mathematical tools. The course covers topics such as Diffie-Hellman key exchange, the ElGamal public key crypto system, integer factorization and RSA, and elliptic curves and lattices in cryptography.

COMP 524 - MOBILE AND WIRELESS NETWORKING  
**Short Title:** MOBILE AND WIRELESS NETWORKING  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 429 or ELEC 429  
**Description:** Study of network protocols for mobile and wireless networking, particularly at the media access control, network, and transport protocol layers. Focus is on the unique problems and challenges presented by the properties of wireless transmission and host or router mobility. Cross-list: ELEC 524. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 421 OR ELEC 421.

COMP 525 - VIRTUALIZATION AND CLOUD RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
**Short Title:** VIRTUAL & CLOUD RESOURCE MGMT  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** (ELEC 425 or COMP 425)  
**COMP 526 - HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE**  
**Short Title:** HIGH PERFORM COMPUTER ARCH  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** Design of high performance computer systems, including shared-memory and message-passing multiprocessors and vector systems. Hardware and software techniques to tolerate and reduce memory and communication latency. Case studies and performance simulation of high-performance systems. Cross-list: ELEC 526.  
**Recommended Prerequisite(s):** ELEC 425 or COMP 425

**COMP 527 - COMPUTER SYSTEMS SECURITY**  
**Short Title:** COMPUTER SYSTEMS SECURITY  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** This class will focus on computer security in real systems. We will cover theory and practice for the design of secure systems (formal modeling, hardware and compiler-enforced safety, software engineering processes, tamper-resistant and tamper-reactive hardware, firewalls, cryptography, and more). Recommended Prerequisite(s): (COMP 311 or COMP 412) and (COMP 421 or COMP 429).

**COMP 528 - INTRODUCTION TO VIRTUALIZATION**  
**Short Title:** INTRODUCTION TO VIRTUALIZATION  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 421 or COMP 521  
**Description:** System-level virtualization is an integral part of modern computer systems, spanning both hardware and software. This course will explore the various types of system-level virtualization and the hardware and software mechanisms that support them. The course will explore the interplay among hypervisors, operating systems, processors, memory, and I/O devices in modern virtualized systems.

**COMP 529 - ADVANCED COMPUTER NETWORKS**  
**Short Title:** ADVANCED COMPUTER NETWORKS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 1-4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 429 or ELEC 429  
**Description:** This course explores advanced solutions in computer networks that are driven by the need to go beyond the best-effort capabilities of the Internet. Topics include network fault tolerance, traffic engineering, scalable data center network architectures, network support for big data processing, network support for cloud computing, extensible network control via software defined networking, denial-of-service-attack defense mechanisms. Readings from original research papers. Also include design project and oral presentation components. This course assumes students already have a good understanding of the best-effort Internet. Cross-list: ELEC 529. Repeatable for Credit.  
**Course URL:** [www.clear.rice.edu/comp529/](http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp529/)

**COMP 530 - DATABASE SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION**  
**Short Title:** DATABASE SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3-4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 321 and COMP 430  
**Description:** This course covers database management system architecture, query processing and optimization, transaction processing, concurrent control and recover, storage, indexing structures and related topics. Students will build a database system from the ground up. Graduate students who have not had an introductory database course should enroll for 4 credits: all others should enroll for 3 credits.

**COMP 531 - WEB DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN**  
**Short Title:** WEB DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** This project-based course explores Web application creation and design. Students are involved in the development of front-end and back-end systems while interfacing client-server communications technologies. Students will evaluate Web structural frameworks, Web development technologies, apply test driven development, and create multi-user Web applications. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 431. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 310 or COMP 321  
**Mutually Exclusive**: Cannot register for COMP 531 if student has credit for COMP 431.
COMP 532 - INTRODUCTION TO DISTRIBUTED COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Short Title: INTRO TO DISTRIBUTED COMP SYS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 421 or COMP 521
Description: Introduction to distributed computer systems. The course covers concepts, architecture, algorithms, protocols, and implementation, focusing on distribution, scale, robustness in the face of failure, and security. Additional coursework required beyond the UG course requirements. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 420. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 532 if student has credit for COMP 420.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp420 (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp420/)

COMP 533 - INTRODUCTION TO DATABASE SYSTEMS
Short Title: INTRO TO DATABASE SYSTEMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Introduction to relational and other database systems, SQL programming, Database application programming, and Database design. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 430. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 533 if student has credit for COMP 430.

COMP 534 - PARALLEL COMPUTING
Short Title: PARALLEL COMPUTING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): (COMP 221 or COMP 321)
Description: COMP 422 is an undergraduate version of this course. COMP 422 students will have four programming assignments. COMP 534 students will have five. As part of their assignments, both COMP 422 and COMP 534 students will analyze the scalability and parallel efficiency of parallel programs they write. COMP 534 students will additionally use tools to qualify the root causes of scaling losses in their programs and document their findings. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 422. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 534 if student has credit for COMP 422.

COMP 535 - APPROXIMATE COMPUTING SYSTEM FOR BIG DATA, SUPERCOMPUTING AND EMBEDDED SYSTEMS
Short Title: APPROX COMP SYS FOR BIG DATA
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Survey this radical concept of approximate (or inexact) computing with the goal of understanding both of the challenges and opportunities at all layers of the computing system ranging over programming languages, compilers and run-time, and architecture.

COMP 536 - SECURE AND CLOUD COMPUTING
Short Title: SECURE & CLOUD COMPUTING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: What is "cloud computing?" How do we build cloud-scale systems and components that are secure against malicious attacks, and scale to millions of users? Many of today's services run inside the cloud – a set of geographically distributed data centers running heterogeneous software stacks. Cloud systems must scale across tens of thousands of machines, support millions of concurrent requests, and they must do so with high security guarantees. This course will start with the fundamentals of cloud computing, introduce key techniques in building scalable and secure systems and expose students to state-of-the-art research advances as well as emerging security threats and defenses in today's cloud systems. Cross-list: ELEC 510. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency. COMP 436. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 536 if student has credit for COMP 436.

COMP 538 - SECURITY OF HW EMBEDDED SYSTEMS
Short Title: EMBEDDED HW SYSTEMS SECURITY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: The course covers wide range of topics pertaining to security of Hardware Embedded system, including cryptographic processors, secure memory access, hardware IT protection by monitoring and watermarking FPGA security, physical and side-charmed attacks, Trojan horses. Cross-list: ELEC 528. Repeatable for Credit.
COMP 539 - SOFTWARE ENGINEERING METHODOLOGY
Short Title: SOFTWARE ENGINEER METHODOLOGY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 404 or COMP 504
Description: COMP 539 is a pure discovery-based learning course
designed to give students real-life, hands-on training in a wide variety
of software engineering issues that arise in creating large-scale,
state-of-the-art software systems. The class forms a small software
development "company" that works to deliver a product to a customer.
The topics encountered include and are not limited to, dealing with
new technologies (e.g. C#, .NET, distributed computing), advanced
object-oriented programming and design, interacting with customers,
problem specification and tasking, individual and group communications,
human resource management, group leadership, testing, integration
and documentation. Traditional development cycle methodologies will
be compared to recent, "agile" techniques. Graduate/Undergraduate
Equivalency: COMP 410. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 505
Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 539 if student has credit for
COMP 410.
Course URL: www.bandgap.cs.rice.edu/classes/comp410 (http://
www.bandgap.cs.rice.edu/classes/comp410/)

COMP 540 - STATISTICAL MACHINE LEARNING
Short Title: STATISTICAL MACHINE LEARNING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): (STAT 331 or STAT 310 or ECON 307) and (MATH 355 or
CAAM 335)
Description: COMP 540 is about learning models from data. The course
is designed to give students a foundational understanding of modern
algorithms in learning and data mining, as well as hands-on experience
with its applications in science and engineering.

COMP 541 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SECURITY
Short Title: INTRO TO COMPUTER SECURITY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 310
Description: This elective course covers a wide variety of topics in
computer security, including hands-on experience with breaking software
and engineering software to be harder to break. For example, students will
perform buffer overflow attacks & exploit web application vulnerabilities,
while also learning how to defend against them. Graduate/Undergraduate
Equivalency: COMP 327, COMP 427. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register
for COMP 541 if student has credit for COMP 327/COMP 427.

COMP 542 - LARGE-SCALE MACHINE LEARNING
Short Title: LARGE-SCALE MACHINE LEARNING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Learning from large dataset is becoming a ubiquitous
phenomena in all applications spanning robotics, medical decisions,
internet, communication, biology, etc. Designed to give senior UG
students a thorough grounding in the theory and algorithms needed
for research and practical applications in machine learning for modern
massive datasets. Topics draw from machine learning, classical
statistics, algorithms and information theory. Graduate/Undergraduate
Equivalency: COMP 441. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for
COMP 542 if student has credit for COMP 441.

COMP 543 - GRADUATE TOOLS AND MODELS - DATA SCIENCE
Short Title: GA TOOLS & MODELS - DATA SCI
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course is an introduction to modern data science.
Data science is the study of how to extract actionable, non-trivial
knowledge from data. The course will focus on the software tools used
by practitioners of modern data science, the mathematical and statistical
models that are employed in conjunction with such software tools
and the applications of these tools and systems to different problems
and domains. On the tools side, we will cover the basics of relational
database systems, as well as modern systems for manipulating large
data sets such as Hadoop MapReduce, Apache Spark, and Google’s
tensorFlow. On the model side, the course will cover standard supervised
and unsupervised models for data analysis and pattern discovery.
Mathematical sophistication (calculus, statistics) and programming skills
that would be acquired in an undergraduate computer science program
are expected. Most programming will be in Python and SQL. (SQL is
covered in the course) with some Java. Instructor Permission Required.
Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 330. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 543 if student has credit for COMP 330.
COMP 544 - FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING
Short Title: FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: An introduction to concepts, principles, and approaches of functional programming. Functional programming is a style of programming where the key means of computation is the application of functions to arguments (which themselves might be functions). This style of programming has become increasingly popular in recent years because it offers important advantages in designing, maintaining, and reasoning about programs in many modern contexts such as web services, multicore programming, and cluster computing. Course work consists of a series of programming assignments in the Scala programming language and various library extensions such as Apache Spark. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 311. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 544 if student has credit for COMP 311.

COMP 545 - ADVANCED TOPICS IN OPTIMIZATION: FROM SIMPLE TO COMPLEX ML SYSTEMS
Short Title: ADV TOPICS IN OPTIMIZATION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: COMP 545 is a graduate-level course on optimization techniques and algorithms, as these are used in modern ML/AI/SP tasks. During this course, we will learn and study the above topics (both in depth and breadth). The course i) will focus on different objective classes (convex vs. non-convex objectives, with constraints or not, etc.), ii) will cover different optimization strategies within each class, iii) will study algorithmic choices based on computational resources (e.g., use of low-dimensional structures (when/why), asynchronous vs. synchronous algorithms, distributed algorithms, etc.) and iv) finally, will study schemes that handle some specific, but well-spread optimization constraints (sparsity, low-rankness). The main objective of the course is to highlight optimization as a vital part of contemporary research in ML/AI/SP and draw the attention of students to open-questions in related topics. In particular, the aim for students is to i) learn how to distinguish differences in research papers of related fields, ii) understand the connection between them and how researchers advance each area, and iii) be able to consider possible extensions of these works, as part of the final (open-ended) project of the course. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 546 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER VISION
Short Title: INTRO TO COMPUTER VISION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: An introduction to the basic concepts, algorithms and applications in computer vision. Topics include: cameras, camera models and imaging pipeline, low-level vision/image processing methods such as filtering and edge detection; mid-level vision topics such as segmentation and clustering; shape reconstruction from stereo, introduction to high-level vision tasks such as object recognition and face recognition. The course will involve programming and implementing basic computer vision algorithms in Matlab. Additional coursework required beyond the undergraduate course requirements. Cross-list: ELEC 546. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 447. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 546 if student has credit for COMP 345/COMP 447.

COMP 547 - COMPUTATIONAL GENOMICS FOR MICROBIAL FORENSICS
Short Title: COMP MICROBIAL FORENSICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: We will review, critique, and discuss computational methods and approaches for microbial forensics and infectious disease monitoring in the genomics era. The seminar will be divided into topic-specific sessions, focusing on emerging research trends and open challenges in the field. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 347. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 547 if student has credit for COMP 347.

COMP 548 - VERIFIED PROGRAMMING
Short Title: VERIFIED PROGRAMMING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: The course will explore the mathematical underpinnings of reliable software. The students will learn how to use proof assistants to construct software along with a machine-checkable proof of its correctness. Basic concepts of logic, functional programming, static type systems and deductive verification will be covered. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 408.
COMP 450 - ALGORITHMIC ROBOTICS
Short Title: ALGORITHMIC ROBOTICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate

Description: In this project-based course, student teams will complete semester-long data science research or analysis projects selected from a variety of disciplines and industries. Students will also learn best practices in data science. Cross-list: DSCI 535. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 449. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 450 if student has credit for COMP 449. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 550 - BIG DATA MANAGEMENT FOR DATA SCIENCE
Short Title: BIG DATA MGMT FOR DATA SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate

Description: This course is an introduction to "big" data, including storage, processing, and machine learning. It covers software tools (including an introduction to database programming using SQL), algorithms, and mathematical models used to prepare and extract knowledge from large datasets. Course material will cover different application problems and domains. Instructor Permission Required.

COMP 554 - COMPUTER SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE
Short Title: COMPUTER SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate

Description: Evolution of key architecture concepts found in advanced uniprocessor systems. Fundamental and advanced pipelining techniques and associated issues for improving processor performance. Illustrated with RISC processors such as the ARM processor. Examine several metrics for processor performance, such as Amadahl's law. Key concepts of data and program memory systems found in modern systems with memory hierarchies and caches. Perform experiments in cache performance analysis. Influence of technology trends, such as Moore's law, on processor implementation Approaches for exploiting instruction level parallelism, such as VLIW. Introduction to parallel and multicore architectures. Introduction to processor architectures targeted for imbedded applications. Additional coursework required beyond the undergraduate course requirements. Cross-list: ELEC 554. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 425. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 554 if student has credit for COMP 425.

COMP 555 - DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS
Short Title: DESIGN&ANALYSIS CYBER/PHYSICAL
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate

Description: This course is an introduction to cyber-physical systems, engineering artifacts in which computational components interact with and typically control physical components. Some common examples of cyber-physical systems include robots, Segways and lane-departure warning, LDW, systems in automobiles. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 451. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 555 if student has credit for COMP 451.

COMP 556 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER NETWORKS
Short Title: INTRO TO COMPUTER NETWORKS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate

Description: This course is an introduction to cyber-physical systems, engineering artifacts in which computational components interact with and typically control physical components. Some common examples of cyber-physical systems include robots, Segways and lane-departure warning, LDW, systems in automobiles. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 451. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 555 if student has credit for COMP 451.

COMP 451 - BIG DATA MANAGEMENT FOR DATA SCIENCE
Short Title: BIG DATA MGMT FOR DATA SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate

Description: This course is an introduction to "big" data, including storage, processing, and machine learning. It covers software tools (including an introduction to database programming using SQL), algorithms, and mathematical models used to prepare and extract knowledge from large datasets. Course material will cover different application problems and domains. Instructor Permission Required.
COMP 557 - ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
**Short Title:** ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 310 and (STAT 310 or ECON 307 or ECON 382 or STAT 312 or STAT 331 or ELEC 331 or ELEC 303) and (MATH 354 or MATH 355 or CAAM 335)  
**Description:** This is a foundational course in artificial intelligence, the discipline of designing intelligent agents. The course will cover the design and analysis of agents that do the right thing in the face of limited information and computational resources. The course revolves around two main questions: how agents decide what to do, and how they learn from experience. Tools from computer science, probability theory, and game theory will be used. Interesting examples of intelligent agents will be covered, including poker playing programs, bots for various games (e.g., WoW), DS1 – the spacecraft that performed an autonomous flyby of Comet Borrely in 2001, Stanley – the Stanford robot car that won the Darpa Grand Challenge, Google Maps and how it calculates driving directions, face and handwriting recognizers, Fedex package delivery planners, airline fare prediction sites, and fraud detectors in financial transactions. Additional coursework required beyond the undergraduate course requirements. Cross-list: ELEC 557. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 440. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 557 if student has credit for COMP 440.  
**Course URL:** [www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp440](http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~comp440/)  

COMP 560 - COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND GEOMETRIC MODELING  
**Short Title:** COMPUTER GRAPHICS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** A survey of core topics in Computer Graphics and Geometric Modeling, including fractals, ray tracing, hidden surface Algorithmic, Bezier, B-spline, blossoming techniques and subdivision procedures. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 360. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 560 if student has credit for COMP 360.  

COMP 561 - GEOMETRIC MODELING  
**Short Title:** GEOMETRIC MODELING  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** Exploration of curves and surfaces (e.g. parametric form, implicit form, and conversion between forms), the representation of solid (e.g., wireframes, octrees, boundary representations, and constructive solid geometry), and applications (e.g., graphics, motion planning, simulation, and finite element mesh generation. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 361. Repeatable for Credit.  

COMP 565 - COMPUTATIONAL HUMAN-ROBOT INTERACTION  
**Short Title:** COMPUTATIONAL HRI  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 4  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMP 440 or COMP 450 or COMP 540 or STAT 525 or MECH 498  
**Description:** The course provides an introduction to the budding field of human-robot interaction (HRI), with emphasis on its computational aspects. The course will cover models and algorithms for learning robot policies from human expertise, modeling human behavior using observational data, and enhancing human-robot coordination. Through problems grounded in HRI, students will also learn about general AI techniques for imitation learning (e.g., inverse reinforcement learning) and sequential decision-making under uncertainty (namely, partially observable MDPs).  

COMP 571 - BIOINFORMATICS: SEQUENCE ANALYSIS  
**Short Title:** BIOINFORMATICS: SEQUENCE  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Course URL:** [www.cs.rice.edu/~nakhleh/COMP571/](http://www.cs.rice.edu/~nakhleh/COMP571/)  

COMP 572 - BIOINFORMATICS: NETWORK ANALYSIS  
**Short Title:** BIOINFORMATICS: NETWORKS  
**Department:** Computer Science  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Graduate  
**Description:** This course covers computational aspects of biological network analysis, a major theme in the area of systems biology. The course discusses protein-protein interaction, signaling, metabolic, and functional networks, and covers issues related to constructing, analyzing various types of networks, as well as how they can be used for downstream applications. Cross-list: BIOE 564.
COMP 573 - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS
Short Title: BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This seminar introduces pre- and postdoctoral students in biomedical informatics to topics relevant to professional development in the discipline, which is no longer concentrated in labs as it was in its early days, but is now important in hospitals, outpatient clinics, companies and even the community. In these settings, researchers and practitioners are likely to encounter not only difficult technical challenges, but vexing problems of organizational change and development as well. We will consider some of these challenges, drawing on the insights of experts in psychology, organizational change, management and communications along with industry representatives and entrepreneurs. The seminar mixes lectures and readings with group and individual exercises. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 576 - A PRACTICAL INTRODUCTION TO DEEP MACHINE LEARNING
Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO DEEP LEARNING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Deep Machine Learning has recently made many advances in difficult perceptual tasks, including object and phoneme recognition, and natural language processing. However, the field has a steep learning curve, both conceptually and practically. The point of this course is to engage students by jumping into the deep end, and building their own architectures and algorithms. Cross-list: ELEC 576.

COMP 580 - PROBABILISTIC ALGORITHMS AND DATA STRUCTURE
Short Title: PROBABILISTIC ALGORITHMS AND D
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course will be ideal for someone wanting to build a strong foundation in the theory and practice of algorithms for processing Big-Data. We will discuss advanced data structures and algorithms going beyond deterministic setting and emphasize the role of randomness in getting significant, often exponential, improvements in computations and memory. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 480.

COMP 581 - AUTOMATA, FORMAL LANGUAGES, AND COMPUTABILITY
Short Title: AUTOMATA/FORMAL LANG/COMPUTING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Finite automata, regular expressions, regular languages, pushdown automata, context-free languages, Turing machines, recursive languages, computability, and solvability. It is strongly recommended that students complete three semesters of Mathematics before enrolling in this course. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 481. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 581 if student has credit for COMP 481.

COMP 582 - GRADUATE DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS
Short Title: GR DESIGN ANALY OF ALGORITHMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): STAT 310 or ECON 307 or STAT 331 or ELEC 331 or ELEC 303 or STAT 312
Description: Methods for designing and analyzing computer algorithms and data structures. The focus of this course will be on the theoretical and mathematical aspects of algorithms and data structures. Cross-list: ELEC 512.

COMP 587 - COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY
Short Title: COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 382 or COMP 409 or COMP 509 or COMP 481 or COMP 581
Description: In Computational Complexity we study the computational resources (time, space, communication, etc.) that are required to solve computational problems via various computational needs. Specifically, we are interested in classifying computational problems with classes of other problems that require similar amount of resources to solve. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 487. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 587 if student has credit for COMP 487.

COMP 590 - COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS
Short Title: COMPUTER SCIENCE PROJECTS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Advanced theoretical and experimental investigations under staff direction. The student must have a full-time internship to receive 4 credits for this course. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.
COMP 591 - GRADUATE COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHING
Short Title: GRAD COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Independent Study
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: A combination of in-service teaching and a seminar. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 598 - INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTICS
Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Introduction to the kinematics, dynamics, and control of robot manipulators and to applications of artificial intelligence and computer vision in robotics. Additional work required for Graduate course. Cross-list: ELEC 598, MECH 598. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 498. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 598 if student has credit for COMP 498.

COMP 600 - GRADUATE SEMINAR IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
Short Title: GRADUATE SEMINAR
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in a Doctor of Philosophy or Master of Science degrees.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: The seminar course meets weekly to discuss current research results by graduate students in the Computer Science Department. Senior Ph.D. Students are expected to present their research results. This course is open ONLY to MS and Ph.D. Students. MCS students may NOT take this course for credit without the consent of the instructor. Repeatable for Credit.
Course URL: www.clear.rice.edu/comp600/ (http://www.clear.rice.edu/comp600/)

COMP 601 - WRITING AND EDITING CONFERENCE PAPERS
Short Title: WRITING & EDITING CONF PAPERS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This is a seminar on technical writing and preparing publications for peer review. The focus is on conference papers, around 6-10 pages in length. The main topics are: 1) The structure of a conference publication, with guest lectures from the faculty. 2) Good daily writing habits with a group accountability system. 3) Editing techniques and the development a departmental “writing community” with interactive editing sessions. This course will cover a few topics from ENGI 600, but the main focus will be on short computer science conference documents and interactive peer editing. ENGI 600 is still the correct course to take for writing in general, thesis preparation, or journal publications. This course will complement COMP 600, and to develop the same community for writing as this class does for presentations. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 602 - NEURAL MACHINE LEARNING AND DATA MINING II
Short Title: NEURAL MACHINE LEARNING II
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): ELEC 502 or COMP 502 or STAT 502
Description: Advanced topics in ANN theories, with a focus on learning high-dimensional complex manifolds with neural maps (Self-Organizing Maps, Learning Vector Quantizers and variants). Application to data mining, clustering, classification, dimension reduction, sparse representation. The course will be a mix of lectures and seminar discussions with active student participation, based on most recent research publications. Students will have access to professional software environment to implement theories. Cross-list: ELEC 602, STAT 602. Repeatable for Credit.
Course URL: www.ece.rice.edu/~erzsebet/NMLcourseII.html (http://www.ece.rice.edu/~erzsebet/NMLcourseII.html)

COMP 607 - AUTOMATED PROGRAM VERIFICATION
Short Title: AUTOMATED PROGRAM VERIFICATION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Methods, tools and theories for the computer-aided verification of concurrent systems. Repeatable for Credit.
Course URL: www.cs.rice.edu/~vardi/comp607/ (http://www.cs.rice.edu/~vardi/comp607/)
COMP 610 - SOFTWARE CONSTRUCTION
Short Title: SOFTWARE CONSTRUCTION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the OMCS program. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 613
Description: This course covers important concepts of programming languages and formal methods. All students will read classical and recent papers on the selected topics and give presentations on them. A student may elect to perform a semester-long project on a topic related to the content of the course and write a short report on their findings. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 611 - TOPICS IN PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES AND FORMAL METHODS
Short Title: PROGRAMMING & FORMAL METHODS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course will cover a selection of topics from the areas of programming languages and formal methods. All students will read classical and recent papers on the selected topics and give presentations on them. A student may elect to perform a semester-long project on a topic related to the content of the course and write a short report on their findings. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 613 - PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES AND DESIGN
Short Title: PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the MCS, MCSE or OMCS programs. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 613
Description: This course covers important concepts of programming languages that are critical to understanding and constructing software artifacts. These concepts will be studied in the context of multiple programming paradigms, including functional and object-oriented programming. By using different paradigms, you will learn to think more deeply than in terms of a single approach or the syntax of one language. This course aims to provide a framework for understanding how to use language constructs effectively and how to design correct and elegant programs in any language.

COMP 614 - COMPUTER PROGRAMMING FOR DATA SCIENCE
Short Title: PROGRAMMING FOR DATA SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: An introduction to computer programming designed to give an overview of programming and algorithmic topics commonly seen in Data Science, such as creating and manipulating data structures, graphs, dynamic programming, sorting and heuristic search algorithms. Students learn how to think about these problems and how to structure effective solutions to them using Python. No prior programming knowledge is required or expected. Instructor Permission Required.

COMP 620 - GRADUATE SEMINAR IN COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Short Title: GRAD SEMINAR COMP SYSTEMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Content varies at discretion of instructor. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 621 - SYSTEMS SOFTWARE
Short Title: SYSTEMS SOFTWARE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the OMCS program. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 613
Description: Modern computer systems are designed and implemented in a layered fashion, wherein each layer builds upon those beneath it, providing abstractions for processing, memory, and I/O that are progressively more abstracted from the hardware and easier to use than those of the underlying layers. While this layered architecture has made building systems easier, it has also made understanding their behavior and performance more difficult. Every layer from the managed run-time environments used by modern programming languages to the hypervisor play a role in processor scheduling, memory management, and I/O, making it oftentimes difficult to pinpoint which layer of the system is interacting poorly with a program. This class will teach students about the fundamental characteristics of the abstractions for processing, memory, and I/O at each layer of a modern computer system, so that they might understand the functionality provided by each layer, and instruct them on the use of modern debugging, profiling, and tracing tools, so that they are equipped to characterize the behavior and performance of their programs.
COMP 625 - COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE
Short Title: COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the OMCS program. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: It has become increasingly important to understand the underlying properties of modern computer architectures. System organization, including memory hierarchies, parallel processor organization, and interconnection networks can have a large impact on the performance of software systems. This course aims to provide a foundational understanding of key computer architecture concepts and their impact on performance.

COMP 628 - CYBERSECURITY
Short Title: CYBERSECURITY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the MCS, MCSE or OMCS programs. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This introductory cybersecurity course includes topics relevant to core components of cybersecurity technologies, processes, and practices designed to protect networks, computers, and data from attack, damage, and unauthorized access. Specifically how to identify, protect, detect, respond, and recover. Topics include threat landscape, cryptography, malware, network security, and cloud security.

COMP 630 - DATABASES
Short Title: DATABASES
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the MCS, MCSE or OMCS programs. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course is an introduction to relational and other (NoSQL) database systems, SQL programming, and database design. This course will teach students how to understand trade-offs in database design, to create well-designed databases, and to develop proficiency in effectively managing data in a database. The course is focused on developing skills as a database designer and power-user. It also includes discussions of database implementation details to enable students to understand underlying system functionality and how that impacts decisions a database designer makes.

COMP 640 - GRADUATE SEMINAR IN MACHINE LEARNING
Short Title: GR SEM IN MACHINE LEARNING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: A reading course covering the latest developments in statistical machine learning and pattern recognition. Recommended Prerequisite(s): COMP 440. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 642 - MACHINE LEARNING
Short Title: MACHINE LEARNING
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the MCS, MCSE or OMCS programs. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 682
Description: Machine learning is the process of automatically inferring a function from a set of data. In essence, machine learning techniques seek to automate the inductive learning process that humans do so well. Furthermore, the availability of large training sets combined with significant computing power has made machine learning an extremely important body of knowledge across a large range of application domains. A small sample of some of the application domains include robotics, medicine, speech/facial recognition, and driving autonomous vehicles. This course will focus on providing a foundational understanding of modern algorithms in machine learning, focusing on practical applications.

COMP 643 - BIG DATA
Short Title: BIG DATA
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the OMCS program. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Prerequisite(s): COMP 630
Description: This course is an introduction to modern data science. Data science is the study of how to extract actionable, non-trivial knowledge from data. The course will focus on software tools used by practitioners of modern data science, the mathematical and statistical models that are employed in conjunction with such software tools and the applications of these tools and systems to different problems and domains. In particular, this class explores the use of these tools and models in the analysis of “big” data, that is datasets that are too large to be analyzed on a typical personal computer.

COMP 645 - ADVANCED TOPICS IN DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS
Short Title: ADV TOPICS IN DISTRIBUTED SYST
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: We will learn about and discuss recent advances in various areas in computer systems, including topics on security, distributed systems, networking, operating systems, and databases. The seminar will be divided into several sections, with each section focusing on one research trend. In each class, students will read one classic paper on the topic, and present two recent papers that describe the stat of the art. Students can also team up and do a semester-long research project on any relevant topics. All students will need to make a final presentation at the end of the class on a potential project idea; for students that choose to do a semester-long project, they will also submit a six-page report on their project, in addition to giving a final presentation. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: ELEC 692. Repeatable for Credit.
COMP 665 - ADVANCED TOPICS IN ROBOTIC MANIPULATION;
Short Title: ROBOTIC MANIPULATION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course provides a survey of autonomous robotic manipulation systems. In particular, we are interested in the most influential recent research, as well as the necessary fundamental concepts that have paved the roads. By reading relevant papers from top journals and conferences, we will discuss problems including grasping, motion planning,prehensile and non-prehensile manipulation, affordance and task modeling, hand design, and perception. Centered around the recent rapid development of various sensor technology, we will try to bridge the gaps between sensing modalities to each of the major problems in manipulation, with an emphasis on understanding how sensing modalities interact with other components in the system. Upon the completion of this course, students should have gained a comprehensive understanding of robotic manipulation as a research field, and should be able to define, formulate and analyze relevant scientific problems on a research level. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 665 - DATA VISUALIZATION
Short Title: DATA VISUALIZATION
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the MCS, MCSE or OMCS programs. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Data is being generated by humans and algorithms at an astounding rate. Having the ability to analyze and interpret this data visually is a key technique for coping with this explosion. This class will cover the basic ways that various types of data can be visualized and what properties distinguish useful visualizations from not so useful ones. The class will use Python as both the primary tool for processing the data as well creating visualizations of this data. To enhance the students’ depth of knowledge, the class will also cover some of the geometric algorithms used to create advanced visualizations.

COMP 670 - GRADUATE SEMINAR ON COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY
Short Title: GR SEM ON COMP BIOLOGY
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course is a discussion based seminar covering recent advances in computational methods and tools in biomedical research. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 677 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory, Internship/Practicum
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate or Visiting Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 680 - STATISTICS FOR COMPUTING AND DATA SCIENCE
Short Title: STATS COMPUTING DATA SCIENCE
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the MCS, MCSE or OMCS programs. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Probability and statistics are essential tools in computer science and data science. They are at the heart of areas such as efficiency analysis of algorithms and randomized algorithms and central to fields like bioinformatics, social informatics, and, of course, machine learning. Furthermore, probability and statistics are essential for data science, as they are the foundation for quantifying uncertainty and assessing support for hypotheses and derived models. This course covers topics in probability and statistics, including probability and random variables, basic stochastic processes, basic descriptive statistics, and various methods for statistical inference and measuring support.

COMP 682 - PRINCIPLES OF ALGORITHMS AND SOFTWARE AREA
Short Title: ALGORITHMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment limited to students in the MCS, MCSE or OMCS programs. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Algorithms are the recipes that underlie all computations executed by a computer. Designing new algorithms, proving their correctness, and analyzing their computational requirements are three foundational tasks in all areas of computer science. This course covers all these three aspects of algorithms. Topics covered include growth of functions, asymptotic notation and analysis, graphs and their properties, graph exploration, graph algorithms, greedy algorithms, divide-and-conquer algorithms, dynamic programming, NP-Completeness, and heuristic search algorithms.
COMP 690 - RESEARCH AND THESIS
Short Title: RESEARCH AND THESIS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 1-12
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 693 - ADVANCED TOPICS-COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Short Title: ADV TOPICS - COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 1-3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course is a discussion based seminar about state of the art embedded and digital signal processing systems, with emphasis on both hardware architectures as well as software tools, programming models, and compilers. The seminar focuses on state of the art academic and commercial offerings in these areas. Cross-list: ELEC 693. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 694 - HOW TO BE A CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER
Short Title: HOW TO BE A CTO
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Survey of the component and standards trends that are the basis of personal computers and digital appliances with the aim of predicting technologies, solutions, and new products five years into the future. Examples of these technologies are dual Core processors, iPods and their evolution, mobile wireless data devices, and even Google vs. Microsoft. Students will each pick a topic important to the digital lifestyle and through a series of one-on-one sessions develop a depth of understanding that is presented to the class. Formerly "Future Personal Computing Technologies." Cross-list: ELEC 694.

COMP 696 - RTG CROSS-TRAINING IN DATA SCIENCE
Short Title: RTG CROSS-TRAINING IN DATA SCI
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Computer Science or Statistics. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: A seminar course to introduce students to topics in Data Science at the interface between Statistics and Computer Science. Students participate in the process of preparing, delivering and critiquing talks. Topics change each semester. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: STAT 696. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: COMP 496. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COMP 696 if student has credit for COMP 496. Repeatable for Credit.

COMP 800 - GRADUATE RESEARCH
Short Title: GRADUATE RESEARCH
Department: Computer Science
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 1-15
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Repeatable for Credit.

Description and Code Legend
Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule
- Course offerings/subject code: COMP

Department Description and Code
- Computer Science: COMP

Undergraduate Degree Descriptions and Codes
- Bachelor of Arts degree: BA
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science degree: BSCS

Undergraduate Major Description and Code
- Major in Computer Science (for both the BA and BSCS degrees): COMP

Graduate Degree Descriptions and Codes
- Master of Computer Science degree: MCS
- Master of Science degree: MS
- Doctor of Philosophy degree: PhD

Graduate Degree Program Description and Code
- Degree Program in Computer Science: COMP

Graduate Degree Program Option Description and Code*
- Degree Program Option - Online (MCS degree only): OMCS

CIP Code and Description

* Systems Use Only: this information is used solely by internal offices at Rice University (such as OTR, GPS, etc.) and primarily within student information systems and support.

1 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2020 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/