Major Transfer Guide:

Computer-Related Degrees

What are Computer-Related Degrees?

When first deciding to pursue a computer-related degree, most people might first consider Computer Science or Computer Engineering. However, computer-related degrees range in a wide variety of disciplines, from engineering to design, from geography to behavioral science, from the arts to scientific research, from business to health, and more. Students interested in computers and technology should first consider what specific interests they have and then determine which degree is the "best fit".

What can I do with a Computer-Related Degree?

Students with Computer-related degrees have a wide range of possible jobs they can pursue. The tech industry is huge and has many focus areas. Students studying in computer-related majors can go on to work in fields such as: cybersecurity, programming, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, application development, video gaming, robotics, software design, and many more.

You can also find parallel jobs in industries outside of the tech world, such as in business, finance, health, analytics, scientific research, and other fields.

Related Majors

Computer Science	Applied Computational Math
Computer Engineering	Human Centered Design Eng.
Informatics	Information Systems Tech.
Applied Computing	Data Analytics
Interactive Media Design	Geographic Information Syst.

Where can I study a Computer-Related Degree?

Nearly every college or university has at least one computer-related major available. Most public and private universities offer a degree titled Computer Science, or something similar. Many universities offer Computer Engineering, either as a stand-alone major or as an option within their Electrical Engineering major. Some universities also offer Information Systems or Information Tech (or related) majors. Additionally, many universities offer these types of majors and degrees completely online. Bellevue College offers a BS in Computer Science (**www.bellevuecollege.edu/cs/**), BAS degrees in Information Systems, Data Analytics, (through our IBIT department: **www.bellevuecollege.edu/ibit/degrees/bachelor/)**, and Health Informatics (through our Health Sciences department: **www.bellevuecollege.edu/hci/**), as well as many tech-related certificates (**www.bellevuecollege.edu/ibit/degrees/certificate/)**.

How do I get started?

We are here to help you get started on your path to a computer-related degree! But first, as mentioned above, there is a huge amount of diversity amongst the computer-related degrees, so it is very important that you figure out which program fits your goals best. Consider doing the following to help you get started:

Step One: Research

Making an informed decision about a major requires some in-depth research. Here are steps students should complete while determining which computer-related major is the best fit for their goals:

- ☐ Log on to **wois.org** (obtain a site key from the BC Career Center) or the national occupations website, **onetonline.org**, and check out potential computer-related careers. Look at what type of background education and/or experience is necessary.
- ☐ Research universities that offer the degree you desire. Read the Computer Science and other computer-related department websites of your top transfer schools and compare. Pay attention to the types of research, educational opportunities, and courses/emphases offered.
- ☐ Every university and major concentration **may require different prerequisite courses** prior to enrolling in their program. Contact a departmental representative at your potential transfer university for more information on how to be best prepared.
- ☐ Admission to most programs is competitive and GPA requirements vary. For example, most students who are accepted to the UW Seattle Computer Science program have a 3.75 GPA or higher, while other CS programs might require a minimum 3.0 - 3.5.

Step Two: Pick a BC Degree

As a transfer student, you not only have the responsibility of researching the prerequisite courses required for your computer-related degree, but you should also consider completing a transfer associates degree at BC. We offer several transfer degrees at BC, though the best degree for you to work through will depend on your interests and intended major, a few of which are listed below, along with *some* of the schools that offer those majors (**please note that this is not a complete list**).

Bellevue College Degree	Bachelor Degrees with Computer-Related "Majors"
Associate in Arts and Sciences (AAS-DTA)	**Computer Science**, B.S (most schools, including **Bellevue College**) **Applied Computing**, B.A.(UW Seattle, UW Bothell) **Interactive Media Design,** B.A. (UW Bothell) **Informatics/Cybersecurity**, B.S. (UW Seattle, SPU, WWU, CWU, WGU) **Information Technology, Systems, etc.**, B.S. (UW Tacoma, CWU, CWU-Online, City University, EWU, WGU, BC) **Human-Centered Design and Engineering**, B.S. (UW Seattle) **Web/Game Design**, B.A., B.S. (EWU, UW Seattle, CWU) **Game Design**, B.A. (EWU, UW Bothell, Art Institute of Seattle, DigiPen) **Geographic Info Systems,** B.A. (UW Seattle; Certs: CWU, EWU, WWU)
Associate in Science: Track II (AS-2)	**Computer and/or Electrical Engineering**, B.S. (most schools) **Computer Science**, B.S. (some schools require a full year of Physics)
BC Associate in Applied Science-T (AAS-T)*: Information Systems; Network Services & Computing Systems; Robotics and Artificial Intelligence (*NEW starting Fall 2018*) **These degrees are not broadly transferrable*	**Information Systems and Technology**, B.A.S. (Bellevue College) **Data Analytics**, B.A.S. (Bellevue College, WGU) **Healthcare Informatics,** B.A.S. (Bellevue College, UW Seattle, WGU) **Information Tech and Administrative Management**, B.A.S (CWU)

Step Three: Make a Plan

Because prerequisites vary so much between schools and programs, we cannot list them all on this sheet. It is **highly recommended** that you speak with a representative at your target institution(s) in conjunction with an academic advisor at BC to pick the best major for you and ensure you are taking the proper course sequences. Below are some of the most common prerequisites for most Computer Science programs in the state. **Please note that this is not a complete list of prerequisites. Completing these courses alone might not qualify you to apply to a Computer Science program, depending on the school.**

Written Comm.	Mathematics	Computer Science	Science	Other Courses for considerations
• ENGL 101 • ENGL 201 OR 235	• MATH 151, MATH 152 • MATH 153, 254 (program dependent) • MATH 208 (program dependent)	• CS 210 • CS 211	• PHYSICS 121; (some schools also require PHYS 122, 123) OR • CHEMISTRY or other sciences	• PROGRAMMING courses (PROG 110, CS 101, PROG 109, PROG 111 —These are good introductory classes, though not required for transfer admissions). • A few programs require C++ Data Structures (CS 212) and/or Discrete Structures (MATH 301).

Now that you have had a chance to review, consider meeting with an adviser. You can schedule an appointment with an Academic Adviser by calling by calling 425-564-2212 or by stopping by the Academic Advising front desk in the B building.

This is an unofficial guide only, designed to prepare students for entry into Washington State Biology programs. It is the student's responsibility to research and communicate with all community college and university programs to which he/she intends to apply to establish prerequisites and admission requirements, as they vary and are subject to change without notice.