The Florida State University
Department of Computer Science

Combined Bachelor's/Master's Pathway

Introduction: The combined BS/MS pathway in the Department of Computer Science is intended for motivated students who wish to pursue an accelerated program culminating in a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and a Master of Science degree in Computer Science. This combined degree program allows a motivated and academically-focused student to complete both BS and MS degrees in 5 years. Up to 12 hours in the MS option may be dual-eligible for credit toward the BS degree ("double counting"). With a focus on the university experience, a student in the combined BS/MS pathway is encouraged to pursue any of the MS options.

Admission: An undergraduate student wishing to enroll in this program must

1. have reached sophomore status and completed 60 semester hours of credit,
2. have a minimum 3.5 GPA at FSU and in all attempted CS courses, and
3. complete COP 4530 with a C- or better

Application: Undergraduate students may apply as early as the end of their sophomore year. If accepted, they should apply to the graduate school during the first semester of their senior year. For further information or to apply for the program, contact the Computer Science undergraduate academic advisor in 203 Love Building or email cs-advisors@fsu.edu.

Retention: In order to remain in the accelerated program, a student must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 at FSU and a Computer Science GPA of at least 3.2.

Approved graduate courses: Students in this program are allowed to substitute up to 12 graduate computer science hours (i.e., CAP 5605, CAP 5726, CNT 5412, and CNT 5605). The student must satisfy all prerequisites for the specific graduate courses taken and will receive special advisement to assure that appropriate courses are selected. Grades of C- or better in these substituted graduate courses will apply towards the BS degree, but a grade of B- or better must be achieved to have that course count towards the MS degree.

Support: Undergraduate work may be funded by the usual financial aid and scholarships. Students may apply for funding in the form of teaching/research assistantships starting in their senior year.

Graduation: Once students have completed the requirements for the undergraduate degree (at the end of the fourth year), they will be awarded the Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. When the requirements for the master's degree are met, they will receive the Master of Science degree in Computer Science.

Example Schedule: The following gives a sample timeline for the completion of the combined BS/MS pathway. Note that all requirements for the BS and MS must be met in addition to the courses listed here. Graduate courses marked are taken as an undergraduate, but will count for both the BS and the MS degree. The student will always take at least 18 hours as a graduate student.

Year	Credit hours	Relevant courses	Special events
Freshman	30	MAC 1105; MAC 1140, MAC 1114, MAC 2311	
Sophomore	30	COP 3014, MAD 2104; CIS 3250 COP 3353, COP 3330, CDA 3100, MAC 2312	
Junior	30	COP 4530, CEN 4020, CEN 4090L,COP 4710, COP 4521, MAD 3105; STA 4442	Applying to the BS/MS program requires a 3.5 GPA in both FSU and CS Math coursework.
Senior	30	COT 4420, COP 4610, CAP 5605, CAP 5726, CNT 5412, CNT 5605	Apply to Graduate program. Complete BS at end of year four.
120 total hours in the BS program completed.			
Graduate	18	Six graduate 3-hour courses	Complete MS at end of year five.
30 hours in the MS program completed, includes 12 credits.			

MS core requirements for combined BS/MS: (COP 5570 or COP 5621 or COP 5725) and (CDA 5155 or CNT 5505 or COP 5611) and (COT 5310 or COT 5405 or COT 5507).

MS InfoSec requirements: must meet the MS core defined above, and complete CNT 5412 and CIS 5370 and CNT 5505 and CIS 5371 and CNT 5605 and (COP 5570 or COP 5611 or COT 5310 or COT 5405). This major awards the "Information Security Specialist Certificate" by the NSA, attesting to the completion of NSTISSI-4011 "Security Professional".

MS Computer Network and System Administration (CNSA) requirements: must complete CDA 5155 and CNT 5412 and CNT 5505 and CNT 5605 and COP 5611 and COP 5570 and the "experience requirement": students are required to complete a system administration internship(s) to meet this requirement.