

10 Reasons to Study Computer Science

1. Exciting Careers Options...

Computer Science is your gateway to the dynamic information economy – think Google, iPods, cell phones, computer games, the web...

Computer Science is all about designing and implementing creative solutions – and it's nothing like the NCEA ICT modules! (no more spreadsheets – we promise)

2. Jobs, Jobs, Jobs

NZ has a ICT jobs crisis: we can't graduate enough students to keep up with the demand!

There are rewarding careers in many areas including software engineering, interaction and interface design, networking and hardware.

3. Research-led teaching, by international experts

As a student at Waikato you'll be taught by dedicated staff who are experts in their fields. Waikato is the leading Computer Science department in the country (by the Government's research rankings). Your courses will give you a firm grounding in the basics, then show you the cutting edge of computing research.

4. Flexible Course Options

You can choose your own courses – mix and match your papers to follow your interests. You can easily switch between the 4-year BCMS and the 3-year BSc. Or just as easily add a 4th honours year to a 3-year BSc degree.

5. State-of-the-art facilities

Enjoy 24/7 access to our dedicated Computer Science laboratories. Fast Internet connections and software development tools can help you create the killer applications of tomorrow.

6. Money, money, money

Why not take our *School Leavers' Computer Science Scholarship Exam* and you could get your first year fees paid? And that's in addition to the University scholarships!

7. Choose to specialise

We offer a variety of specialisations within the Computer Science major:

✔ Artificial Intelligence ✔ Data Mining ✔ Graphics and Multimedia ✔ Information Systems ✔ Internet Applications ✔ Software Development

Or go your own way and choose your own combinations of courses – the choice is yours from the widest variety of computing courses offered in New Zealand.

8. Diverse range of courses

Follow your interests to design and create new software applications in a wide range of topics:

✔ *Graphics and Computer Games* – what makes games enjoyable to play? ✔ *Web Applications* – create the next TradeMe
✔ *Human-Computer Interaction* – can you invent something better than a mouse and keyboard? ✔ *Artificial Intelligence* – can machines think?
✔ *Practical Data Mining* – can you discover the hidden patterns among millions of data points? ✔ *Computer Networks* – build a faster, safer, wireless Internet

9. Opportunities

Make the most of your degree:

✔ Join the ACM Student Chapter for social events and professional networking.
✔ Enter the programming competition and test your problem-solving skills against NZ and the rest of the world.
✔ Join one of our world class research groups on a Summer Research Scholarship and contribute to software that is used around the world.
✔ Become a lab demonstrator and earn some extra cash as you help out in practical lab sessions.

10. Flexible working

Work where you want. We have a software agreement with Microsoft so you can run your course software on your own computers.

We're the only NZ Computer Science Department to be part of *MentorNet*: a one-on-one mentoring programme that matches students in Computer Science to international mentors. Your mentor can provide you with "real world" information, encouragement, advice, and access to professional networks

Look to the future

If you add the value of *Ford*, *General Motors* (they own *Holden*) and *DaimlerChrysler* (they own *Mercedes-Benz*) together, then add \$87 billion – that's how much *Google* is worth ... and it's only 8 years old!

Increasingly economic growth and innovation happen in this information economy and it's all driven by computers. Computer Science gives you the right skills for the economy of the future.

"demand for IT professionals is rocketing"
(*NZ Herald*, July 2006)

"Skills shortage keeps pushing IT salaries up, says survey"
(*ComputerWorld NZ*, Sept 2006)

"There is a shortage of IT skills on a worldwide basis"
(*Bill Gates, Microsoft*, Nov 2006)

Software Engineering

Or you can choose the industry-accredited *BE in Software Engineering*.

Support

We don't just leave you in the computer labs - there are tutors and lab demonstrators available to provide you with one-to-one support to put your new skills into practice.

And for the BE in Software Engineering?

There are \$4000 Bachelor of Engineering Fees Scholarships available as well (no exam!).

Call 0800 WAIKATO

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