

Computer Science
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Degree Program(s) Assessed	Assessment Methods	Number of Individuals Assessed
<i>BS Computer Science</i>	<i>Graduating Senior Survey</i>	55
	<i>Alumni Survey</i>	6
	<i>Internship Employer Evaluations</i>	9
	<i>Regional Competitions</i>	20
	<i>Student coursework</i>	292
<i>MS Computer Science</i>	<i>National Research Presentations</i>	9
	<i>Thesis</i>	18
<i>PhD Computer Science</i>	<i>Dissertation Presentation</i>	1
	<i>National Research Presentation</i>	9

Analysis and Findings:

- 55 Students returned the Graduating Senior Survey. According to their rating, the strengths of the Computer Science Department are Advising, Availability of instructors, and the computer science knowledge of instructors. Weaknesses appeared to be not enough course offerings in a semester and quality of instructions. Students also noted that lack of programming experience was a hindrance to success in the program.
- 20 recent graduates were sent an alumni survey. 6 students responded to this survey. 67% of those responding were working in a field related to Computer Science. 100 % of those working in the field reported that the Computer Science content prepared them extremely or fairly well for their current position. They also rated the quality of instruction at OSU as adequate. The biggest weakness identified by the alumni was the lack of preparation for the daily “office rhetoric” and lack of web-related technology. Those not working in Computer Science indicated that they had not been able to find a job in that field.
- 9 Computer Science students participated in an Internship with a variety of companies, from the University of Texas at Austin to Ford Motor Company to the Red Cross. Employers evaluated the students on their technical knowledge, the quality of their work, their initiative, their attitude, their professionalism, their communication skills, and their ability to work with others. In every single category, the majority of students were evaluated as exceeding expectations. Students received very high evaluations from all employers, with more than half of the students receiving an overall “excellent” rating.
- 20 Computer Science students competed departmentally for a chance to participate in a Regional programming competition. The Computer Science department sent 2 teams of 4 students to Baton Rouge for the Southwest Regional competition. The teams are given 6 problems, and teams are judged how many programs they can finish in the least amount of time. Both teams finished in the upper half, with the first team finishing seventh overall.
- Students are required to take a Social Issues class, as well as the more technical Computer Science Classes. The ethics class, CS 4883, emphasizes the moral and ethical responsibility of the computing professional. The more technical classes, CS 3443, 4323, and 4343 teach the fundamentals of computer systems and operating systems.
- 9 MS and PhD students submitted research papers for presentations at national conferences and were accepted. Papers were presented at the ABC conference in Orlando and the BIS conference in Colorado Springs.

- 36 students submitted and defended a thesis and received their MS degrees in Computer Science.
- 1 student successfully defended his dissertation and received a PhD

Uses of Assessment Results:

- As a result of the graduating senior survey and the alumni survey, the department will consider changes in the social issues class to include a career component. This section will emphasize job search strategies, and office procedure and management techniques.
- The Computer Science department has also added an additional programming language class to the degree requirements. Previously, this class, CS 2432, has been an elective, but was added to address the lack of programming experience in undergraduate students, and to better prepare students for industry.
- Faculty will continue to assess and review curriculum, student needs, and make program revisions based on their needs assessment.

Computer Science continues to hire new faculty as funds permit, in order to address the need for more course offerings in a semester.