Computer Science-Economics

The joint Computer Science-Economics concentration exposes students to the theoretical and practical connections between computer science and economics. It prepares students for professional careers that incorporate aspects of economics and computer technology and for academic careers conducting research in areas that emphasize the overlap between the two fields. Concentrators may choose to pursue either the A.B. or the Sc.B. degree. While the A.B. degree allows students to explore the two disciplines by taking advanced courses in both departments, its smaller number of required courses is compatible with a liberal education. The Sc.B. degree achieves greater depth in both computer science and economics by requiring more courses, and it offers students the opportunity to creatively integrate both disciplines through a design requirement. In addition to courses in economics, computer science, and applied mathematics, all concentrators must fulfill the Computer Science requirement. In addition to courses in economics, computer science, and applied mathematics, all concentrators must fulfill the Computer Science department's writing requirement by passing a course that involves significant expository writing.


Prerequisites (3 courses):
- MATH 0100 Introductory Calculus, Part II
- MATH 0520 Linear Algebra
- or MATH 0540 Honors Linear Algebra
- or CSCI 0530 Directions: The Matrix in Computer Science
- ECON 0110 Principles of Economics

Required Courses (17 courses):
- CSCI 1450 Probability and Computing
- or APMA 1650 Statistical Inference I
- or APMA 1655 Statistical Inference I

Select one of the following Series:

Series A
- CSCI 0150 & CSCI 0160 Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming and Computer Science and Introduction to Algorithms and Data Structures

Series B
- CSCI 0170 & CSCI 0180 Computer Science: An Integrated Introduction and Computer Science: An Integrated Introduction

Series C
- CSCI 0190 Accelerated Introduction to Computer Science (and an additional CS course not otherwise used to satisfy a concentration requirement; this course may be CSCI 0180, an intermediate-level CS course, or a 1000-level course.)

Two of the following intermediate courses, one of which must be math-oriented and one systems-oriented.
- CSCI 0220 Introduction to Discrete Structures and Probability (math)
- CSCI 0320 Introduction to Software Engineering (systems)
- CSCI 0330 Introduction to Computer Systems (systems)
- CSCI 1010 Theory of Computation

A pair of CS courses with a coherent theme.

An additional CS course that is either at the 1000-level or is an intermediate course not already used to satisfy concentration requirements. CSCI 1450 may not be used to satisfy this requirement.

- ECON 1130 Intermediate Microeconomics (Mathematical)
- ECON 1210 Intermediate Macroeconomics
- ECON 1630 Econometrics I

Three courses from the "mathematical economics" group:
- ECON 1170 Welfare Economics and Social Choice Theory
- ECON 1225 Advanced Macroeconomics: Monetary, Fiscal, and Stabilization Policies
- ECON 1465 Market Design: Theory and Applications
- ECON 1470 Bargaining Theory and Applications
- ECON 1640 Econometrics II
- ECON 1650 Financial Econometrics
- ECON 1660 Big Data
- ECON 1750 Investments II
- ECON 1759 Data, Statistics, Finance
- ECON 1810 Economics and Psychology
- ECON 1820 Behavioral Economics
- ECON 1850 Theory of Economic Growth
- ECON 1860 The Theory of General Equilibrium
- ECON 1870 Game Theory and Applications to Economics

and any graduate Economics course

Two additional 1000-level Economics courses

Capstone Course in either Computer Science or Economics

Total Credits: 17

1 A list of pre-approved pairs may be found at the approved-pairs web page (http://www.cs.brown.edu/ugrad/concentrations/approvedpairs.html). You are not restricted to pairs on this list, but any pair not on the list must be approved by the CS director of undergraduate studies. CSCI 1450 may not be used to satisfy this requirement.
2 Or ECON 1110, with permission.
3 A one-semester course, normally taken in the student’s last undergraduate year, in which the student (or group of students) use a significant portion of their undergraduate education, broadly interpreted, in studying some current topic (preferably at the intersection of computer science and economics) in depth, to produce a culminating artifact such as a paper or software project.

Standard Program for the A.B. degree:

Prerequisites (3 courses):
- MATH 0100 Introductory Calculus, Part II
- MATH 0520 Linear Algebra
- or MATH 0540 Honors Linear Algebra
- or CSCI 0530 Directions: The Matrix in Computer Science
- ECON 0110 Principles of Economics

Required Courses (13 courses):
- CSCI 1450 Probability and Computing
- or APMA 1650 Statistical Inference I
- or APMA 1655 Statistical Inference I

Select one of the following series:

Series A
- CSCI 0150 & CSCI 0160 Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming and Computer Science and Introduction to Algorithms and Data Structures

Series B
- CSCI 0170 & CSCI 0180 Computer Science: An Integrated Introduction and Computer Science: An Integrated Introduction

Two of the following intermediate courses, one of which must be math-oriented and one systems-oriented.
- CSCI 0220 Introduction to Discrete Structures and Probability (math)
- CSCI 0320 Introduction to Software Engineering (systems)
- CSCI 0330 Introduction to Computer Systems (systems)
- CSCI 1010 Theory of Computation

A pair of CS courses with a coherent theme.
CSCI 0170 & CSCI 0180  Computer Science: An Integrated Introduction and Computer Science: An Integrated Introduction

Series C
CSCI 0190  Accelerated Introduction to Computer Science (and an additional CS course not otherwise used to satisfy a concentration requirement; this course may be CSCI 0180, an intermediate-level course, or a 1000-level course)

Two of the following intermediate courses, one of which must be math-oriented and one systems-oriented:

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CSCI 0220  Introduction to Discrete Structures and Probability (math)
CSCI 0320  Introduction to Software Engineering (systems)
CSCI 0330  Introduction to Computer Systems (systems)
CSCI 1010  Theory of Computation

Two additional CS courses; at least one must be at the 1000-level. The other must either be at the 1000-level or be an intermediate course not already used to satisfy concentration requirements.

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ECON 1130  Intermediate Microeconomics (Mathematical) 1
ECON 1210  Intermediate Macroeconomics 1
ECON 1630  Econometrics I 1

Three courses from the "mathematical-economics" group: 3

ECON 1170  Welfare Economics and Social Choice Theory
ECON 1225  Advanced Macroeconomics: Monetary, Fiscal, and Stabilization Policies
ECON 1465  Market Design: Theory and Applications
ECON 1470  Bargaining Theory and Applications
ECON 1640  Econometrics II
ECON 1650  Financial Econometrics
ECON 1660  Big Data
ECON 1750  Investments II
ECON 1759  Data, Statistics, Finance
ECON 1810  Economics and Psychology
ECON 1820  Behavioral Economics
ECON 1850  Theory of Economic Growth
ECON 1860  The Theory of General Equilibrium
ECON 1870  Game Theory and Applications to Economics

or any graduate Economics course

Total Credits 13

1  Or ECON 1110, with permission.

Honors

Students who meet stated requirements are eligible to write an honors thesis in their senior year. Students should consult the listed honors requirements of whichever of the two departments their primary thesis advisor belongs to, at the respective departments' websites.

Professional Track

The requirements for the professional track include all those of the standard track, as well as the following:

Students must complete two two-to-four-month full-time professional experiences, doing work that is related to their concentration programs. Such work is normally done within an industrial organization, but may also be at a university under the supervision of a faculty member.

On completion of each professional experience, the student must write and upload to ASK a reflective essay about the experience addressing the following prompts, to be approved by the student's concentration advisor:

• Which courses were put to use in your summer's work? Which topics, in particular, were important?
• In retrospect, which courses should you have taken before embarking on your summer experience? What are the topics from these courses that would have helped you over the summer if you had been more familiar with them?
• Are there topics you should have been familiar with in preparation for your summer experience, but are not taught at Brown? What are these topics?
• What did you learn from the experience that probably could not have been picked up from course work?
• Is the sort of work you did over the summer something you would like to continue doing once you graduate? Explain.
• Would you recommend your summer experience to other Brown students? Explain.
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

- Helvetica was used instead of Arial.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.