AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

A U.S - ACCREDITED GRADUATE INSTITUTION AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCE PROGRAM

WHAT IS CIS?

- An opportunity to start your own IT business, to manage a software company, or to deliver Internet services.

- The knowledge to be a productive leader in the computing and related industries.

- Cutting-edge and marketable programming skills, in-demand know-how in network construction and administration.

- Skills in database management, data mining and knowledge discovery.

- Exposure to entrepreneurship, engineering economics and financial management needed to manage your IT company.

- Knowledge of professional practice, innovation and enterprise as well as technological trends and emerging opportunities.

- A sound base in the core principles of Computer and Information Science to prepare you for potential study at the Ph.D. level.

- The opportunity to participate in international programming projects and competitions.

The CIS program is an applied program to help students gain the necessary skills required to be productive and innovative leaders in the computing and related industries. As such, the graduates gain broad training in the technical areas of the field, as well as in the supplemental areas of business, management and entrepreneurship.

Alumni quotes:

"Computer science isn't just math, laptops and Microsoft, it's a way of thinking and AUA creates a stimulating environment to develop that thinking."

"Computer science is unique – you can impact the lives of millions with just a computer and the internet."

"CIS shaped my personality, gave me knowledge, a better career, great friends and the time of my life."

"It was my first experience of intellectual energy: people working to understand and share that understanding."

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- To be considered for admission, an applicant must meet the AUA general admission requirements as well as the CIS specific requirements. Applicants are expected to:

- Hold an undergraduate degree in a field such as mathematics, science or engineering. Students with degrees in non-science disciplines may be admitted, depending on their completed course work and experience. The undergraduate degree must include, as a minimum, two years of college-level mathematics covering calculus, linear algebra and differential equations, and a course in physical sciences (physics, mechanics, biology, chemistry, etc).

- Present an Internet-based TOEFL (iBT) score of at least 79, or an IELTS score of at least 6.0. The test must have been taken within two years of the application date.

- Present a score of at least the 50 percentile on the Graduate Record Examinations Test (GRE) Quantitative section. The test must have been taken within five years of the application date.

- Submit an informative Statement of Purpose.

ABOUT AUA

Deciding to pursue an American master's degree is a big decision, but choosing the best school to meet your needs is even harder. AUA offers excellent U.S.-accredited graduate programs and provides several unique advantages.

- A safe, welcoming environment. Armenia offers a warm and hospitable social environment where all cultures are welcome and appreciated.

- Motivated students. Students from the U.S., China, Iran, Syria, Georgia, Russia, India and around the world join Armenian students for an increasingly international student body.

- Accommodating facilities and services. Facilities, including the new, state-of-the-art Paramaz Avedissian Building, with services such as wireless Internet and the latest software, the open-stack Papazian library, a cafeteria and health center.
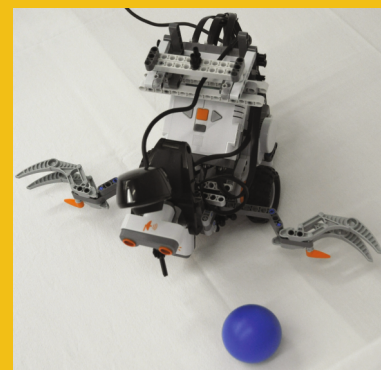
CIS students select courses which provide both intellectual depth as well as practical skills needed for today's fast-changing realm of Computer Science and IT. The curriculum consists of ten core courses, five elective courses, a group of three courses in a minor field of study, an environmental sciences course, and a master's project/thesis. The minors currently offered are Business Management, Energy, Design & Manufacturing, and Industrial Engineering & Systems Management. In the summer prior to the start of the graduate studies, a pair of preparatory or "bridge" courses are offered to ensure that entering students have the requisite background for graduate study in the CIS program.

A key feature of the program is the provision for students to engage in the practice associated with their studies, and is realized in the practicum course included in the core curriculum. In this practicum course students have the opportunity to gain real world experience by completing a project in a leading IT company, an experience that often leads to enhanced networking in the industry and even employment.
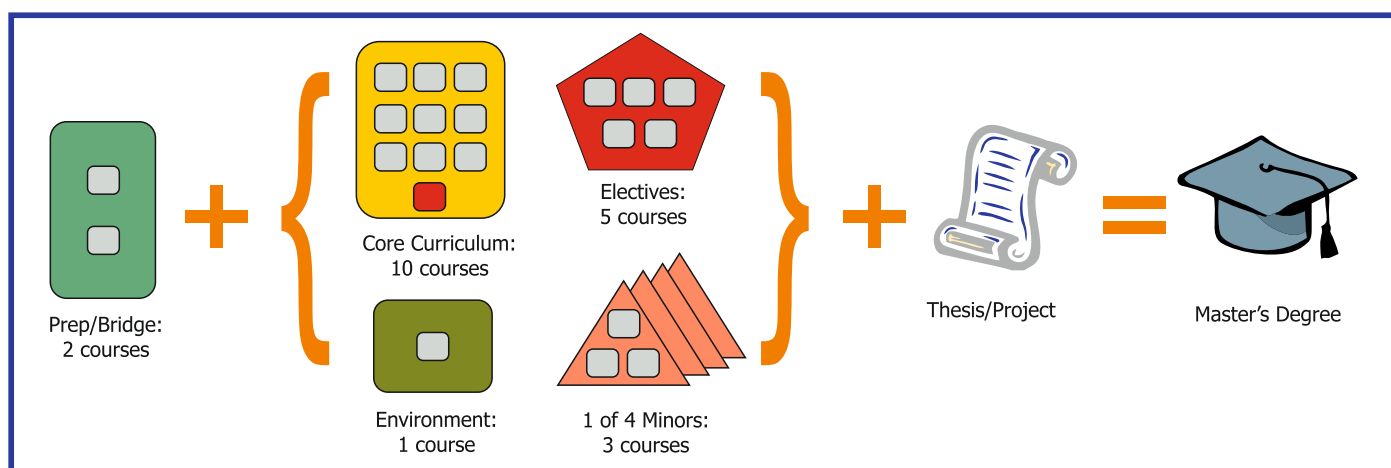
ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTER (ERC)

The ERC conducts innovative engineering research on topics that are relevant to the economic development of Armenia and its regions. It brings together AUA scientists and engineers, visiting faculty, and AUA students to collaborate on projects that are generated internally or are funded by external sponsors.

Qualified students are employed as research assistants, and gain valuable experience working alongside experts on projects related to their fields of study.

ERC has collaborated with companies and foundations in the US, France, Germany, and local industry in Armenia, as well as with academicians worldwide, including in the US, New Zealand, and India.

Prep/Bridge:
2 courses

+

Core Curriculum:
10 courses

Environment:
1 course

Electives:
5 courses

1 of 4 Minors:
3 courses

+

Thesis/Project

=

Master's Degree

Applicants to the CIS program come from a diverse collection of undergraduate degree backgrounds such as Informatics and Applied Mathematics, Physics, Civil Engineering, Electronics, Economics, Management, and Medicine. Some have previous work experience while others apply directly after their undergraduate studies.

Many graduates of the CIS program have gone on to earn PhDs or further graduate study in a number of leading universities in the US and in Europe. Nearly all of our graduates who seek employment upon the completion of their studies have attained jobs at the leading IT companies in Armenia, while others have started their own companies with the skills and ideas generated during their time at AUA.