Some great reasons to study with the Faculty of Computing and Mathematical Sciences:

- Our computing and mathematical sciences papers are relevant and up-to-date in what is a rapidly changing technological and social environment.
- You will have 24 hour access to computer labs, including dedicated Apple Mac-based design labs.
- You can join CS$ (Computer Science Student Society), a club run for Computer Science students by Computer Science students.
- Waikato is recognised among the world’s best, with a top 200 ranking for Computer Science (QS subject rankings 2015).

Scholarship information

Each year we offer up to ten $5,000 Computer Science Undergraduate Scholarships to students beginning study at the Faculty of Computing and Mathematical Sciences. This scholarship is awarded based on the results of a competitive exam and is open to Year 12 and Year 13 students only. Visit cms.waikato.ac.nz/study-with-us/scholarships for more information.

We also recognise our top enrolled students. Each year we present Dean’s Awards to the best ten students at each level, enrolled in an undergraduate degree in the Faculty of Computing and Mathematical Sciences.
Studying Computer Science at Waikato you’ll learn about software systems and how people and computers interact, how to create new software and ensure it works well and does what it is supposed to, and how to make it easy for people to use.

A Computer Science qualification will prepare you for a career in entertainment, industry, business, education and government.

The knowledge and practical skills learnt during study will support development in all of these areas. Ongoing progress in computer technology means that there is a steady need for more qualified computer professionals.

Computer scientists look at ways to systematically describe and transform information.

Computer Science at Waikato

A major in Computer Science is flexible, allowing you to focus on a particular area, or to complete a more generalist major. The papers available are carefully designed to ensure you have a good mastery of a particular area of Computer Science and will equip you with the skills you need to succeed in your chosen career.

Qualification options

Computer Science can be taken as a first major for the following qualifications:

- Bachelor of Computing and Mathematical Sciences (4 years)
- Bachelor of Science (3 years)

Because the first three years of the BCMS are almost identical to the BSc, you can choose when you would like to graduate. You have the option to graduate after three years with a BSc in Computer Science, or stay on for an extra year and complete a BCMS. The extra year available through the BCMS gives you the chance to drill more deeply into your specialist area, and to undertake an honours research project in collaboration with a research/teaching Computer Science staff member.

Facilities

The computer facilities available to students are among the best in New Zealand, ranging from phones and tablets for mobile app development, to cluster computers for massively parallel processing. Because our degrees are highly practical, you’ll begin working with these facilities right from your first semester.

Entry requirements

While there are no specific subjects you need to study at secondary school to study Computer Science at Waikato, NCEA Computing/Digital Technologies and Mathematics are very useful. Each year the Faculty also award up to ten scholarships to the best performing secondary school students, as determined by our yearly Scholarship exams.

Job opportunities

The skills students will gain from this programme can lead to work in a variety of roles including:

- Web Architect
- Software Developer
- Usability Engineer
- Mobile App Master
- Data Miner
- Network Engineer

CARLY HONA
BCMS(Hons) Computer Science
Software Developer, Orbis Investment Management Ltd (Sydney)

I am part of a global team of developers that create and maintain the software our accountants use for managing our investment funds. I recently lead my first project which was the most challenging thing I’ve done in my career so far. The project’s goal was to automate the process of checking trade reasonability, e.g., making sure our traders aren’t buying stocks for the wrong funds. This cut out a lot of manual work our accountants were doing on a daily basis allowing them to focus on other tasks.

For this project I used a lot of the knowledge I learned at Waikato, from project management and database administration, to parallel programming and finite state machine design. I love my job. I get to work with intelligent people on interesting projects and get flown all over the world to do it. Starting at Waikato I knew nothing about software development or computers which is testament to the quality of papers on offer and how well they prepare you for the real world.
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