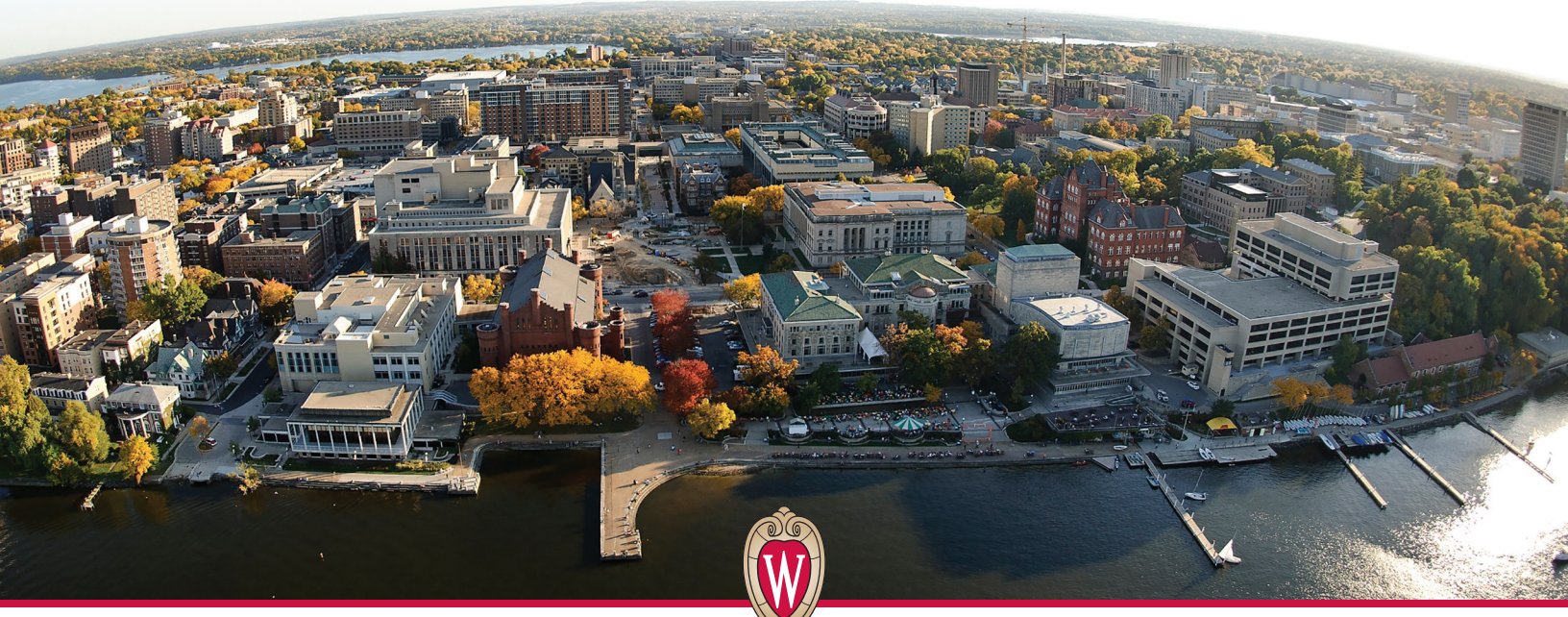
GRADUATE STUDIES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

AT UW–MADISON



Department of
Computer Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

Your Dream
Home Awaits

Graduate Studies in Computer Science at UW–Madison

The University of Wisconsin–Madison has long been a leader in education and research in computer science. Founded in 1964, UW–Madison's Computer Sciences Department is the second-oldest in the country. Our founders had a bold vision to pursue the cutting edge of teaching and research—a vision that persists today.

> "My degree in computer science from the University of Wisconsin–Madison was absolutely fundamental to my career as a software developer."
>
> **TOM RUDKIN, MS '76**

A research powerhouse

Graduate students gain significant research experience with faculty mentors. UW–Madison is one of the nation's research powerhouses, and Computer Sciences is a strong component of that reputation.

- For more than 25 years, UW–Madison has ranked in the top ten U.S. universities for research expenditures. In 2016, UW–Madison spent more than $1.16 billion on research.
- UW–Madison is home to world-renowned research groups across the spectrum of CS, and our researchers regularly publish in top journals and conferences.
- CS researchers win competitive grants from agencies like the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes for Health, and the Department of Defense.
- Private research support comes from top companies like Facebook, Google, IBM, Microsoft, and Oracle.
- Many of our faculty and students are affiliated with the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, a state-of-the-art facility for interdisciplinary research.

A Research Powerhouse

Launch Your Career

A terrific launchpad for your career

Our students travel regularly to present their work at conferences and network with other students and professionals. Our graduates land exciting positions in both private industry and academia. They teach at top universities, lead research labs, run successful companies, and create innovative startups. Major companies like Epic, Facebook, Google, Microsoft, and Oracle are all home to UW–Madison graduates.

In academia, our graduates teach at places like the University of California-Berkeley, Carnegie Mellon University, Cornell University, the University of Texas-Austin, the University of Illinois, and the University of Washington.

Madison has a thriving tech scene of its own, anchored by the healthcare software giant Epic, founded by alumna Judy Faulkner (MS '67). Epic employs roughly 10,000 in the Madison area. Google has a regional office here. Incubators and newer companies founded by alumni—like Ionic, Propeller Health, and EatStreet—add to a dynamic local mix.

After graduation, you'll be part of a powerful alumni network. Through organizations like the Computer Sciences Alumni Club and Badger Entrepreneurship Forum, our grads help each other pursue rewarding careers.

Broaden your horizons at UW-Madison

Options tailored to you

UW–Madison offers three graduate degree options in computer sciences: the master's degree, the PhD, and the Professional Master's Program.

Additionally, there is a Professional Capstone Certificate Program, designed for those who already have a bachelor's in a field other than computer science. While the Capstone Certificate is not a degree, it prepares students planning a career change to software development with the fundamentals of computer science.

In partnership with UW–Madison's iSchool, the department also offers an online capstone in user experience design called MadUX.

"My experience at Wisconsin helped land me in Silicon Valley at some of the top computer firms. UW–Madison is a great place to try a lot of different things; there's so much to choose from."

KEVIN MOORE,
CEO, Quilt Data, PhD '07

Tailored to You

A Vibrant Place to Live

Madison: A vibrant place to live

In 2014, Forbes ranked Madison #5 nationally for cities with the fastest-growing tech sectors. In addition to being a high-tech hub, Madison boasts a scenic, lakeside campus in the heart of Wisconsin's capital city.

Both on campus and off, you'll find abundant opportunities for cultural activities and outdoor recreation, such as cycling and sailing. In 2014, Nerdwallet dubbed Madison the #1 "Greenest City in America" and #2 for "Best Cities for Young Entrepreneurs to Start Small Businesses."

> "The UW–Madison CS department is one of the top schools in the world, and people are open to new people from other countries. It's part of the Midwestern culture to be so welcoming."

SOMAYEH SARDASHTI,
Software Engineer, Google, PhD '15

Supporting your education

The majority of students in our traditional MS/PhD degree programs have financial support for their studies, generally in the form of teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or fellowships. Others support their studies through on-campus jobs for students with computing skills, or through off-campus positions.

"The CS program is full of fantastic professors who were really motivating. They helped me make connections so by the time I was out of grad school, I already knew a lot of people."

RACHEL ROSE,
Supervisor of Research & Development,
Industrial Light & Magic, PhD '07

Supporting Your Education

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