

Senior Capstone Survey 2005 - 2006 Results

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6. The ability to experiment and discover knowledge.	5
7. The ability to think holistically, e.g., identify interactions in systems, prioritize trade-offs, make judgments and achieve balance.	5
8. The development of personal skills and attributes, e.g., initiative, creativity, curiosity.	5
9. The development of professional skills and attitudes, e.g., professional ethics and responsibility, staying current in the discipline.	6
10. The ability to function on a multidisciplinary team.	6
11. The ability to write effectively.	6
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14. Understanding the roles and responsibilities of computer professionals in and for society.	6
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Survey Overview

Instructions Provided To Respondents

Answer questions as they relate to you. For most answers, check the boxes most applicable to you or fill in the blanks.

Respondent Metrics

Respondents:	13
First Response:	11/10/2005 08:51 PM
Last Response:	6/23/2006 11:07 AM

Survey Results

The following is a tabular depiction of the responses to each survey question. Additional comments provided by respondents, if any, are included after each table.

Section - What is your major?

1. What is your major?

53.8%	7	Computer Sciences
30.8%	4	Software Development
15.4%	2	Information Systems

Section - Learning Objectives

2. Knowledge of scientific and mathematical foundations

76.9% 10 Agree
23.1% 3 Strongly agree

3. Knowledge of computer sciences fundamentals e.g., data structures, algorithms, etc.

61.5% 8 Agree
38.5% 5 Strongly agree

4. Knowledge of advanced topics in the computer sciences.

61.5% 8 Agree
30.8% 4 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Disagree

5. The ability to reason and solve problems in the computer sciences.

46.2% 6 Agree
46.2% 6 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Disagree

6. The ability to experiment and discover knowledge.

61.5% 8 Agree
38.5% 5 Strongly agree

7. The ability to think holistically, e.g., identify interactions in systems, prioritize trade-offs, make judgments and achieve balance.

53.8% 7 Agree
38.5% 5 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Disagree

8. The development of personal skills and attributes, e.g., initiative, creativity, curiosity.

76.9% 10 Agree
15.4% 2 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Disagree

9. The development of professional skills and attitudes, e.g., professional ethics and responsibility, staying current in the discipline.

69.2% 9 Agree
23.1% 3 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Not Applicable

10. The ability to function on a multidisciplinary team.

30.8% 4 Agree
30.8% 4 Disagree
30.8% 4 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Not Applicable

11. The ability to write effectively.

53.8% 7 Agree
30.8% 4 Disagree
15.4% 2 Strongly agree

12. The ability to make oral presentations.

76.9% 10 Agree
15.4% 2 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Disagree

13. The ability to use graphical and multimedia communication.

61.5% 8 Agree
30.8% 4 Strongly agree
7.7% 1 Disagree

14. Understanding the roles and responsibilities of computer professionals in and for society.

61.5% 8 Agree
38.5% 5 Strongly agree

15. Understanding of enterprise and business context, e.g., business strategies and planning, entrepreneurship, success within organizations.

61.5% 8 Agree
23.1% 3 Strongly agree

7.7% 1 Disagree
7.7% 1 Not Applicable

16. The ability to conceive software systems: requirements, function, architecture, model, etc.

61.5% 8 Agree
38.5% 5 Strongly agree

17. The ability to design software systems.

61.5% 8 Agree
38.5% 5 Strongly agree

18. The ability to implement software systems.

61.5% 8 Agree
38.5% 5 Strongly agree

19. The ability to operate software systems: install operating systems and applications, use software tools, etc.

61.5% 8 Agree
23.1% 3 Strongly agree
15.4% 2 Disagree

Section - Program Quality

20. Would you recommend Florida Tech to others who want to study in the computer sciences?

100.0% 13 Yes

21. The courses offered by the Department of Computer Sciences are:

76.9%	10	Challenging
7.7%	1	Difficult
7.7%	1	Easy
7.7%	1	Too difficult

22. Instruction in courses offered by the Department of Computer Sciences :

84.6%	11	Good
7.7%	1	Excellent
7.7%	1	Poor

23. From which courses offered by the Department of Computer Sciences did you learn the most?

Algorithms and Data Structures (0000000013 Anonymous)

Algorithms and Data Structures (Menezes) Advanced Java Concepts (Stansifer) Machine and Assembly (Mahoney) (0000000008 Anonymous)

Assembly, OS Concepts, Dr. Bond's courses. (0000000003 Anonymous)

CSE1301 (0000000014 Anonymous)

Ethics with Kaner Security with Ford Software Engineering with Bond (0000000002 Anonymous)

Fundamentals of Software Development 2 Algorithms and Data Structures Advanced Java Concepts Software Testing 2 Machine and Assembly Language (0000000010 Anonymous)

Operating Systems and Data Structures (both with Dr. Bond), Intro to Software Engineering with Dr. Andrews, Software Testing with Dr. Whittaker, and Legal/Ethical with Dr. Kaner (0000000007 Anonymous)

Programing language concept (0000000001 Anonymous)

Software Design Methods and Intro to software development (0000000005 Anonymous)

Software Design Methods, Algorithms and Data Structures (w/Menezes), and Computer Security (0000000009 Anonymous)

Software Testing 1 &2 (0000000011 Anonymous)

Windows Systems Programming Network Programming (0000000012 Anonymous)

Windows Systems Programming Software Design Methods Computer Graphics Algorithms Algorithms and Data Structures (0000000006 Anonymous)

24. Please comment on the quality of the program, e.g., required and elective courses, suggestions for improvement, etc.

don't require physics labs (0000000013 Anonymous)

Formal Lanuages and Automata theroy wasnt very usefull. The primary purpose of Physics Lab 1&2 is to learn how to write lab reports, its very time consuming and never used again. Drop those requirments. Reasearch Sources and Systems could be usefull but it needs to be earilier in the program plan. This is also a prime candidate for something that can be tested out of. Mathematics requirements (Calculus in particular) should be taught more pragmatcaly. (0000000011 Anonymous)

Give students more knowledge in actual applications development. Theory is good but practical experience is nice too. And make C++ more of a focus. 1 out of 50 jobs I've applied for has asked for Java. (0000000003 Anonymous)

I like that the information systems course is well rounded. It includes CS, COM, and BUS classes. For IS, more practical applications of system engineering and administration. (0000000002 Anonymous)

I think that Operating Systems (at least when I took it) and Database Systems classes need to have labs. You need to experiment to use this knowledge in a future job. These classes seem to just be lectures of concepts that you don't have time to thouroughly experiment with. I wish the math classes (statistics and discrete math) when we came in as freshmen could have been tailored to CS majors like they are now. Group work needs to be encouraged starting at the freshman level. People can learn so much from each other by in groups. It would make it easier to understand at that level, the importance of certain classes. A focus also needs to be put on relating the information to "real-world" situations in the freshman and sophmore classes so that information is retained more readily when used in junior or senior classes. I liked how the professors really challenged

me over the last four years. They did not settle and just hand out a's. You had to work hard to even just get c's. It pushed myself to learn more than I even wanted to at times, but in the end I will be thankful for it. (0000000009 Anonymous)

lkjlfjalkjlkdkjlkjlkjl (0000000014 Anonymous)

N/A (0000000012 Anonymous)

quality was good, but one suggestion would be : changing the exams from one semester to another, students got the exams of the previous semesters and just learn the answer without really understanding all the concept, in the end, those students got a good grade where students working "honestly" got a lower grade (but have a better understanding of the concepts and ideas) (0000000001 Anonymous)

Some teachers are great teachers and some are very poor. There is a good number of professors who have the knowledge to teach but dont have the capabilities as a teacher. Some professors don't communicate well with students and sometimes makes students feel as if they are incapable of learning the material. (0000000005 Anonymous)

The choice of Java as primary language is a bit questionable. IMO Java is good, but only when talking about upper level applications. A lot of the real computing happens on a lower level where the programmer has more freedoms in terms of optimizing algorithms, memory management, etc. Such freedoms are essential when pursuing the development of newer ideas. (0000000007 Anonymous)

The program is excellent, and proactive students can deinfetally challenge themselves with the 4000+ level electives. (0000000008 Anonymous)

There are not enough Math courses and there are too many science electives (and for some reason the registration office doesn't consider Math to be a science), and there are too many humanities courses. Also CS majors are required to take Physics 2 Lab, while CE majors are not. The class was useless for me and extremely annoying (one period is 3 hours, worth only 1 credit, huge reports due every week). I would recommend offering only the bear minimum of general science and humanities courses and using the newly available credits to offer more general electives and CS courses. (0000000010 Anonymous)

We need more choices for Science electives. Biology and Chemistry are both 4 credits, and we only need 3 credits, so that takes out both of those classes, and all the classes that they are prerequisites for, for most people. That leaves us with Intro to Astronomy, Intro to Space Science, and Oceanography. (0000000006 Anonymous)

Section - Expectations after graduation
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25. What are your plans after graduation?

100.0% 13 Get a job.

26. If you are going to work, do you expect:

61.5% 8 The job will be in your major field.
 23.1% 3 The job will be one you like.
 7.7% 1 The compensation will be good.
 7.7% 1 The organization for which you work will be one you like.

27. If you are going to work, for which organization will you work?

Advanced IT Services (0000000002 Anonymous)

ajajdfjljaslfjlas (0000000014 Anonymous)

Argon ST in Fairfax, VA (0000000008 Anonymous)

AuthenTec Inc. (hopefully) (0000000003 Anonymous)

Harris Corporation (0000000012 Anonymous)

I have no idea. (0000000006 Anonymous)

Microsoft (0000000013 Anonymous)

Microsoft (0000000010 Anonymous)

Microsoft (0000000011 Anonymous)

no idea (0000000001 Anonymous)

Not known at this time. (0000000005 Anonymous)

Science Applications International Corporation (0000000009 Anonymous)

Security Innovation (0000000007 Anonymous)

28. If you are going to graduate school:

- 92.3% 12 You will enter a master's degree program.
7.7% 1 You will receive a scholarship or assistantship.

29. If you are going to graduate school, which school will you attend?

Fix bug in your survey that makes you fill in this question and question 28 (0000000011 Anonymous)

Florida Tech (0000000014 Anonymous)

I am not going to attend graduate school until January 2007, so I am not sure which one yet; It will probably depend on which schools SAIC will help pay with (0000000009 Anonymous)

I don't know yet. I'll work for the next 1-2 years. (0000000010 Anonymous)

I will attend George Washinton University or George Mason while working. (0000000008 Anonymous)

N/A (0000000013 Anonymous)

Not going (0000000003 Anonymous)

Not sure yet (0000000012 Anonymous)

One with a Masters in IT (0000000002 Anonymous)

Probably Florida Tech. I plan on getting a job and then getting my Masters Degree. (0000000006 Anonymous)

Undecided at the moment. FIT is definitely on the list, but I would like to see how the upcoming faculty trends in the department will develop. (0000000007 Anonymous)

University of Florida. (0000000005 Anonymous)

Virginia Tech or one in Canada (0000000001 Anonymous)