B.S. in COMPUTER SCIENCE MAJOR

MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the College of Business and Information Systems is to educate and prepare students to be life-long learners and professionals in business, computer information systems, electronic commerce, computer science, business and computer education, and health information management. We will accomplish our mission by challenging students build a solid base of knowledge in their chosen fields, to develop excellent information management skills, to think logically, and to make sound decisions.

GOAL(S) STATEMENT: Graduates of the Computer Science program will be knowledgeable in the practices and technologies in their field and be prepared for entry-level positions in the field. Students wishing to pursue a graduate degree in Computer Science will be well prepared. Students entering the job market after graduation will be well prepared for their first employment.

Computer Science graduates:

1. will be knowledgeable in the practices and technologies in Computer Science at a depth and breadth required to be prepared for entry-level positions in the field.
   1. Major field Assessment Test: 50% of graduates’ scores will be at or above the 50th percentile for four-year public college seniors.
   2. Core CSC Competency Exam: 80% of graduates will have an aggregate score of 75% or above.
   3. Core CSC Competency Exam: The average of all scores of graduates for each question will be 70% or move.
   4. Employee Advisory Committee: 80% of the Advisory committee will rate the current Computer Science curriculum sufficient to prepare the graduate for their first job in the field.

2. wishing to pursue a graduate degree in Computer Science will be well prepared.
   1. Major field Assessment Test: 50% of graduates’ scores will be at or above the 50th percentile for four-year public college seniors.
   2. Core CSC Competency Exam: 80% of graduates will have an aggregate score of 75% or above.
   3. Core CSC Competency Exam: The average of all scores of graduates for each question will be 70% or move.
   4. Some number of graduates we be accepted into a Computer Science Graduate program.

3. entering the job market after graduation will be well prepared academically for their first employment.
   1. Major field Assessment Test: 50% of graduates’ scores will be at or above the 50th percentile for four-year public college seniors.
   2. Core CSC Competency Exam: 80% of graduates will have an aggregate score of 75% or above.
   3. Core CSC Competency Exam: The average of all scores of graduates for each question will be 70% or move.
4. Employee Advisory Committee: 80% of the Advisory committee will rate the current Computer Science curriculum sufficient in depth and breadth to prepare the graduate for their first job in the field.
5. Employee Advisory Committee: 80% of the Advisory committee will rate the current Computer Science curriculum sufficient in depth and breadth to prepare the graduate for continued learning on the job.

Assessment Tools

1. **Major Field Assessment Test (MFAT) – A Direct Assessment Tool**

   This is a nationally normed computer science exam which will be taken by all graduating Computer Science majors. Because of the nature of the exam itself and that graduates have no compelling reason to perform to their top level on the exam, the MFAT will be used as a more broad assessment. We will be looking into possible replacements to allow better actionable assessment data from the exam.

2. **Core Competency (distributed ) Exam (NEW) – A Direct Assessment Tool**

   This will be a set of questions imbedded in upper division Core CSC courses to assess core CSC Competency. The questions will be part of the grading of the course so that students have motivation to do well. The questions will be also tracked separately for each CSC major and compiled into an aggregate score upon graduation. Questions will also be aggregated across students to produce assessment data on particular areas. The questions will be designed with a stated objective for assessment and to be repeatable so that longitudinal data can be collected.

   This exam will being in the Fall of 2014.

3. **Employer Advisory Committee (NEW) – An Indirect Assessment Tool**

   This Advisory committee will be made up of former DSU CSC majors who have graduated within the last ~10 years. A representative sample of graduates in positions from a variety of company types and sizes will meet annually to review the current Computer Science curriculum. They will generate a report that will assess the curriculum and also make recommendations going forward. This committee will be formed in the fall of 2014 and will meet annually in the fall so as to allow any urgent recommendations to be reflected in the current curriculum modification process.