

Network Technologies

School of Computer Sciences, College of Business and Technology



Program of Study

Like all of Western Illinois University's programs, studies in network technologies are based on the broad educational foundation built during freshman and sophomore years. General education courses account for approximately one-third of the credit hours required for the degree and include courses in writing, speaking, the humanities, the social sciences, the natural sciences, mathematics and health sciences.

When people exchange e-mail with business colleagues, search a library database using a web browser on a personal computer, connect to a wireless router in a hotel or classroom, talk to family and friends on a cell phone, make a charge card purchase in a store or at the gas pump or just surf the Internet from home, they are utilizing network systems and services. The advancement of network technology has transformed the way and speed with which individuals communicate and exchange information. Indeed, the use of network systems and services has profoundly changed lives.

Individuals will find the network technologies program rewarding and challenging. The objective of the network technologies curriculum is to provide students with the theory, tools, technical expertise and management know-how required to be successful in planning, designing and managing a network environment. For students with a special interest in security, WIU offers the network technologies program with a cyber security emphasis.

WIU's program in network technologies will consist of the following core courses: Computer Science Principles (with the language JAVA), Computer Organization, Data Structures, Switching and Routing, Security, Network Performance Analysis and Distributed Systems. Upon completion of the majority of the core classes, students advance into areas of Web Technologies; Advanced Security; E-Commerce; Unix; Database Systems and Ethical, Social, and Legal Issues in the Digital World.

Students have the opportunity to take courses in Business Communications, Telecommunications Planning and Management, and Public Administration. Additional courses in mathematics statistics, English and information systems and decision sciences may be required to complement the students' special interests and career goals.

A minor area is required for the network technologies major. Your department advisor will help you select courses for a minor that will best complement your special interests and career goals. We especially recommend a minor in one of the College of Business and Technology areas.

Faculty

The most important resource Western can provide to its students is its faculty. The computer science faculty is well-prepared to give students the education they want and deserve. Students will find senior professors working with freshmen and Ph.D. faculty from the finest institutions dedicated to providing the best possible instruction in the classroom.

Scholarships

Detailed information on scholarships is available from the department advising office, (309) 298-1619; Western's Scholarship office, (309) 298-2001; or on the Web at wiu.edu/Scholarship.

Honors

To be eligible for the Centennial Honors College, entering freshmen must have an ACT composite score of at least 28 OR have a 26 or 27 composite ACT and be in the top 15 percent of their high school graduating class OR have an ACT composite score of at least 24 and be in the top 10% percent of their high school graduating class. A comparable SAT score is acceptable. Transfer and current WIU students who wish to join the Honors College (including the Quad Cities Honors Program) must have a 3.4 grade point average on a 4.0 scale based on 12 or more semester hours. Honors credit is given for honors coursework completed at other accredited institutions. To find out more, visit wiu.edu/Honors.

General honors seminars in the humanities, sciences and social sciences provide students with the opportunity to explore key academic issues with distinguished faculty members. In Network Technologies, honors students take courses for honors credit and are eligible to take honors seminars.

Student Activities

Western advises students to become involved in other activities such as music, theatre, intramural sports, the student newspaper, student government and, of course, the Computer Science Association (CSA). CSA is one place where students are welcomed by others with similar interests and where students can learn about the latest advances through field trips and special presentations. It is a vital part of students' total education. Western's School of Computer Sciences also hosts a chapter of the National Honorary Computer Society, Upsilon Pi Epsilon. This society provides special recognition to outstanding computer science majors.

Computer Facilities

At Western, students will have access to a large IBM mainframe and SUN computers, as well as large laboratories of the latest microcomputers. The access to microcomputers is as good as any university in the United States. It is WIU's goal to give students experience on a variety of computing equipment and its associated software so that they can judge which type of equipment is best suited for the problems they encounter during their working career. Students will work on at least three different types of computers during their first four semesters at Western.

After College

The demand for network technology specialists grows every year. As a graduate in network technologies from Western, individuals will be well-prepared for a variety of career opportunities in every conceivable type of commercial, industrial, government, research and educational organization. Graduates will have job titles such as network analyst, network designer, network administrator, local area network specialist, distributed systems analyst, telecommunications analyst and systems security administrator.

For More Information

For more details on the network technologies major, visit wiu.edu/computerscience.

Campus Visits

The Admissions Reception Center (Sherman Hall 115) is open most weekdays from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. when the University is in session. Group information sessions are available on Mondays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., and individual appointments can be made on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Campus tours are conducted at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointments with advisors, faculty or a financial aid advisor may be arranged separately during the week. The Admissions Reception Center is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. most Saturdays when the University is in session. A group information session is available at 10 a.m., and a campus tour is conducted at 11 a.m. Students may schedule a visit or tour online at wiu.edu/admissions by selecting "Visit Campus." Students may also schedule a visit, tour or individual appointment by calling toll free (877) PICKWIU (742-5948) or (309) 298-3157, or by emailing admissions@wiu.edu.



**wiu.edu/
computerscience**

School of Computer Sciences

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