Palo Verde College

Program Outline Report

Program Basics

Program Title:	Computer Information Systems Associate of Science
Program Status:	Active from 2025-2026 Fall (2025FA)
Department:	Computer Information Systems
Award Type:	A.S. Degree Major (Credit)
Program/Catalog Description	To meet the needs of successful computer science or computational science, this degree program integrates the study of computer applications and computer sciences. This degree program prepares the student for immediate entry into a vocational field related to computer programming and/or further study in computer science, or computational science. The curriculum in this programming and/or further study in computer science, or computational science. The curriculum in this program leads to the Associate of Science Degree and/or employment in computer information systems or computer applications. This degree requires 27 units (24 units from required courses, 3 units from electives.)
Control Number:	09813
Credential ID:	No value
Transferability:	No value
(SP01) Program TOP Code:	0702.00
(SP01) Program TOP Code:	Computer Information Systems
(SP02) Student Program Award:	Associate of Science (A.S.) degree
Maximum Credits:	65
Minimum Credits:	61
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	04/10/2025
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	05/13/2025
External Review Approval Date:	05/13/2025

Proposal Details

Proposal Start:	2025-2026 Fall (2025FA)
What changes have been made to the program:	Updating units due to CalGETC
Program Justification:	The AS in CIS is a field that is in great demand in our region and throughout the world. Jobs in this field are categorized as high skill and high demand. In our region there is more demand than is being produced. To compensate for this, this degree will help prepare students for employment in this field.

Submission Rationale

No value

Program Requirements

Computer Information Systems Associate of Science (Total 61-65)
Complete all of the following

Required Courses (24 units): (Total 24)
Complete the following number of credits: 24

CIS101 - Introduction to Computers and Information Systems	3
CIS123 - Web Page Design Using HTML	3
CIS130 - Introduction to 3D Computer Animation	3
CIS131 - Animation Principles and Production I	3
CIS201 - Introduction to 3-D Printing, Setup, & Rapid Prototype Design	3
CIS202 - 3-D Printing: Basic Model Making	3
CIS260 - Desktop Publishing	3
CIS265 - Adobe Photoshop	3

Computer Information Systems Electives (3 units): (Total 3)
Complete the following number of credits: 3

CIS124 - Web Page Design Tools	3
CIS132 - Animation Principles and Production II	3
CIS133 - Advanced 3D Computer Animation	3
CIS203 - 3D Printing, Basic Model Finishing	3
CIS204 - 3D Rapid Model Making & Prototype Development	3
In addition to the CORE courses required for the A.S. Degree in Computer Information Systems, students will also be required to meet the General Education Requirements.	34-38

Recommended Sequences

No value

Program Outcomes

Computer Information Systems Associate of Science

PSLO	Performance
1. Acquired fundamental grounding in communications, science, mathematics, humanities, the social sciences and self-development.	70
2. Demonstrated knowledge of technology applicable to the field, and a proficiency in appropriate software; be competent evaluators and users of hardware; adapt to technological changes and select a current solution for a given problem.	70

Program Narrative

Narrative Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

The goal of the AS in CIS degree is to prepare student in software and hardware that is used in the CIS field. Students should be ready to enter the CIS field upon graduation or prepared for continuing their education in this field of study.

The specialized coursework incorporated in the AS Degree in Computer Information Systems is designed to teach students the necessary software, skills, and tools utilized in the Graphic Design, Desktop Publishing, Web Design, Computer Animation, Networking, and Computer Repair fields. Students will learn image editing, desktop publishing, web ready imaging, HTML programming language, professional web design editing software, Microsoft Office Suite, Computer Maintenance and Repair, and Systems Analysis and Design.
Students completing this degree will be ready for entry level jobs in graphic design, desktop publishing, web site development, web site maintenance, help desk support, computer maintenance and repair, data entry, data management, word processing, and computer animation and object modeling.
Current projected data from the Occupational Outlook Handbook (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos090.htm (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos090.htm)); (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos155.htm (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos155.htm)); (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos287.htm (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos287.htm)) states:
Employment change.
Employment of graphic designers is expected to grow 13 percent, as fast as the average for all occupations from 2008 to 2018, as demand for graphic design continues to increase from advertisers and computer design firms.
Moreover, graphic designers with Web site design and animation experience will especially be needed as demand increases for design projects for interactive media—Web sites, mobile phones, and other technology. Demand for graphic designers also will increase as advertising firms create print and Web marketing and promotional materials for a growing number of products and services. Growth in Internet advertising, in particular, is expected to increase the number of designers.
In addition, Computer Support Specialists positions are on the rise. The job outlook from 2012-2022 estimates a 17% growth which is faster than the average growth in other occupations.
The job prospects for data entry and information processing professions will produce numerous job openings each year as the need to replace workers who transfer to other occupations or leave these large occupations for other reasons arises. Job prospects will be most favorable for those with the best technical skills and those who are willing to upgrade their skills continuously in order to remain marketable.
Employment of computer system analysts is expected to grow by 20% from 2008-2018, which is must faster than the average for all occupations. Demand for these workers will increase as organizations continue to adopt and integrate increasingly sophisticated technologies and as the need for information security grows.
Graphic Designers. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-2011 Edition. Bureau of Labor Statistics: http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos090.htm (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos090.htm). Retrieved October 28, 2010.

Data Entry and Information Professing Workers. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-2011 Edition. Bureau of Labor Statistics: http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos155.htm (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos155.htm). Retrieved September 27, 2011.
Computer Systems Analysts. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-2011 Edition. Bureau of Labor Statistics: http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos287.htm (http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos287.htm). Retrieved September 29, 2012.
Computer Support Specialists. Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-2013 Edition. Bureau of Labor Statistics: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/computer-support-specialists.htm. Retrieved January 19, 2013.

Narrative Item 2. Catalog Description

To meet the needs of successful computer science or computational science, this degree program integrates the study of computer applications and computer sciences. This degree program prepares the student for immediate entry into a vocational field related to computer programming and/or further study in computer science, or computational science. The curriculum in this programming and/or further study in computer science, or computational science. The curriculum in this program leads to the Associate of Science Degree and/or employment in computer information systems or computer applications. This degree requires 27 units (24 units from required courses, 3 units from electives.)

Narrative Item 3. Program Requirements

24 restricted/required units from CIS list and 3 units from the electives list.

Computer Information Systems A.S. Degree

To meet the needs of successful computer Information systems, this degree program integrates the study of computer applications, computer science, and computer information systems. This degree program prepares students for immediate entry into a vocational field related to computer programming, computer animation, graphic and web design, entry level IT positions and/or further study in computer information systems or computer sciences.

Requirements

Course	Title	Units
CIS 101	Introduction to Computer and Information Systems	3
CIS 123	Web Design Using HTML	3
CIS 130	Introduction to 3D Computer Animation	3
CIS 131	Animation Principles and Production I	3
CIS 201	Intro to 3-D Printing, Setup & Rapid Prototyping Design	3
CIS 202	3-D Printing: Basic Model Making	3
CIS 260	Desktop Publishing	3
CIS 265	Adobe Photoshop	3

Electives (Choose a minimum of 3 Units from the list below)

Course	Title	Units
CIS 124	Web Page Design Tools	3
CIS 132	Animation Principles and Production II	3
CIS 133	Advanced 3D Computer Animation	3
CIS 203	3D Printing Basic Model Finishing	3
CIS 204	3D Rapid Model Making & Prototype Development	3

Total Required Units: 27
In addition to the Core Courses required for the A.S. Degree in Computer Information Systems, students will also be required to meet the General Education Requirements listed in the catalog.

Narrative Item 4. Master Planning (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Each year, the needs of the CIS Department are discussed and evaluated at Advisory meetings

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Narrative Item 5. Enrollment and Completer Projections (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

We expect to see more students complete this program with the new changes.

Narrative Item 6. Place of Program in Curriculum/Similar Programs (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Each certificate in the CIS department can be stacked and latticed leading to the AS in CIS. It is our goal to provide students with success and achievement along the way during their pursuit of the AS degree in CIS>

Narrative Item 7. Similar Programs at Other Colleges in Service Area (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

Most community colleges in our region offer degrees in this field.

LMI and Analysis

Employment in the CIS field is growing faster than the average. There are more jobs in this high skill high wage profession than in the past. This field is growing fast and preparing students for entry into this field is a priority of our region.

Advisory Committee Recommendations (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

The advisory continues to support the direction of the CIS department.

Regional Consortia Recommendations (Not needed for Certificates of Career Preparation)

This program is in alignment with other CIS programs within our region.