FOR INFORMATION **PUBLIC** **OPEN SESSION**

TO:	UTSC Academic Affairs Committee
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DATE:	March 3, 2026 for March 10, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	2

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

New Degree: Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS), UTSC

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The UTSC Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) "is concerned with matters affecting the teaching, learning, and research functions of the Campus" (*AAC Terms of Reference*, Section 4). Under Section 5.4 of the *AAC Terms of Reference*, the Committee recommends for approval, "new undergraduate degrees, graduate programs and degrees and joint degrees and programs with external institutions as defined in the *University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process*, and the closure of such programs." The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs recommends to the Academic Board approval of proposals for undergraduate programs leading to new degrees (*AP&P Terms of Reference*, Section 4.4.a.i.).

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For Information]: March 10, 2026**
2. Committee on Academic Policy and Programs [For Recommendation]: March 31, 2026
3. Academic Board [For Approval]: April 16, 2026
4. Executive Committee [For Confirmation]: May 4, 2026

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

No previous action in governance has been taken on this item.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Faculty of Arts & Science (FAS) on the St. George campus, the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), and University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) are proposing to introduce the Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) degree as a new four-year Honours undergraduate degree to be conferred by the University of Toronto. This proposal is being brought forward for information, with formal governance to occur through the University's Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) for recommendation prior to subsequent consideration through the University governance process.

The discipline of computer science encompasses both the theory and practice of computing, including hardware and software development, computing systems, algorithms, and artificial intelligence. Although a relatively young field, Computer Science has expanded rapidly in depth and breadth over the past sixty years as technology and applications have evolved. Today, the discipline encompasses a wide range of emerging areas such as machine learning, quantum computing, cybersecurity, health informatics, data privacy, and the ethical implications of new technologies.

The array of courses offered across all three campuses reflects this significant evolution. Current programs also demonstrate the growing scope of the discipline, with UTSC's Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences offering four tailored streams in Computer Science—Comprehensive, Software Engineering, Entrepreneurship, and Information Systems.

Currently at U of T, the degree that recognizes students' expertise in computer science is the Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc). However, given the growth and evolution of this discipline, the HBSc no longer communicates accurately the depth and breadth of computer science training students receive. Introducing the new degree at U of T responds to the continued evolution of the discipline, recognizes the breadth of expertise within it, and supports both UTSC and the University of Toronto in engaging with developments at the forefront of the field.

In addition to the proposal to introduce the BCS degree, a separate major modification proposal to repoint the existing Specialist and Specialist (Co-op) programs in Computer Science, including their associated streams, as well as the Major and Major (Co-op) programs in Computer Science, to the new BCS degree, will be brought forward later this spring. This major modification will be submitted to the April 2026 Academic Affairs Committee meeting for approval, following the introduction of the new BCS degree through the governance process.

There will be no changes to the existing enrolment plans of the three divisions participating in the proposal. There are no changes to admission requirements for any of the programs being repointed to the BCS degree. In addition, there are no changes to program design, structure, completion requirements, experiential learning opportunities, mode of delivery, or program learning outcomes for any of the programs being repointed. However, the minimum 2.0 CGPA requirement to remain in the Specialist programs in Computer Science will be retired, as students will only need a CGPA of 1.85 to graduate with the BCS degree. The degree requirements for the proposed BCS will be consistent with the degree requirements of other Honours Bachelor's degrees delivered by the University of Toronto Scarborough. Furthermore, there will be no changes to the tuition or grant funding associated with the programs that will be repointed to the proposed degree.

Pending governance approval, the proposed BCS degree is expected to take effect on September 1, 2027, with the first conferral of the degree anticipated in June 2028. Once implemented, there will be a transition period for continuing students. All in progress students enrolled in the Specialist and Specialist (Co-op) programs and their streams, as well as the Major and Major (Co-op) programs, who were admitted to the University prior to September 1, 2027, will be offered the choice of graduating with the new Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) or the Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc). Students who choose the HBSc will need to contact the Office of the Registrar to receive the HBSc degree instead. New students admitted for September 2027 in any admission category will receive the degree to which their programs are pointed. This means that if they complete only a Specialist program that points to the Bachelor of Computer Science degree, they will graduate with the Bachelor of Computer Science.

Students completing a double major in Computer Science and another program area will have the option to graduate with the degree associated with either major. For example, students pursuing a double major in Computer Science and Human Biology may graduate with the HBSc.

A consultative, tri-campus working-group process informed the development of this proposal. The working group, which includes representatives from the UTSC's Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences (CMS) and the Office of the Registrar, has been meeting since Summer 2024 to articulate the academic rationale for the new degree, assess need and demand, determine the most appropriate name for the proposed degree, develop new degree requirements, identify programs that would be associated with or point to the new degree, and coordinate a tri-campus consultation strategy to engage key stakeholders. Tri-campus consultations included surveying current and potential employers, as well as students enrolled in the Computer Science Major and Specialist programs.

Within UTSC, discussions regarding the proposed BCS degree were held with faculty and students in CMS throughout November and December 2025. The proposal received unanimous approval from the department's Curriculum Committee in early January 2026. Details of the proposed BCS degree were subsequently circulated to members of the Chairs Council and to the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU) in late January and early February 2026, respectively. The SCSU has expressed support for the proposed BCS degree and the repointing of the relevant Computer Science programs to the new degree.

Beyond FAS, UTM, and UTSC, consultations were also undertaken with decanal leadership from the Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering and the Faculty of Information. In addition, the proposal was reviewed by the Provost's Advisory Group and the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no net implications to the campus operating budget.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

1. New Degree Proposal: Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS), dated February 25, 2026

University of Toronto
New Degree Proposal:

This template should be used to bring forward all proposals for new degrees for governance approval under the *University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process* (UTQAP).

This template (updated November 2023) is for new degrees. It aligns with UTQAP requirements and will help to ensure that all evaluation criteria established by the Quality Council are addressed in bringing forward a proposal. Separate templates have been developed for other types of proposals.

Degree name and short form: i.e., Master of Arts, M.A.; Master of Science in Sustainability Management, M.Sc.S.M.	Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)
Academic programs that will lead to the new degree Identify any existing programs that will lead to the new degree	**Faculty of Arts & Science** • Computer Science Specialist ASSPE1689 • Computer Science Major ASMAJ1689 • Data Science Specialist ASSPE1687 • Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Specialist ASSPE1868 **University of Toronto Mississauga** • Computer Science Specialist ERSPE1688 • Computer Science Major ERMAJ1688 • Information Security Specialist ERSPE1038

	University of Toronto Scarborough
	• Specialist and Specialist (Co-operative) in Computer Science
	  ○ Comprehensive Stream SCSPE0510 & Co-op SCSPE0510C
	  ○ Information Systems Stream SCSPE0455 & Co-op SCSPE0455C
	  ○ Software Engineering Stream SCSPE0795 & Co-op SCSPE0795C
	  ○ Entrepreneurship Stream SCSPE0805 & Co-op SCSPE0805C
	  ○ Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Stream & Co-op (pending approval; anticipated start date is September 2026)
	• Computer Science Major SCMAJ1688 & Co-op SCMAJ1688C

Faculties/academic divisions:	Faculty of Arts & Science (Arts & Science) University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC)
Dean's Office contacts:	Gillian Hamilton, Vice-Dean, Academic Planning, Arts & Science Bryan Stewart, Vice-Dean, Academic Programs, UTM Maggie Cummings, Special Advisor on Academic Programming & Curriculum Development, UTSC
Proponents:	Eyal de Lara, Chair of Dept. of Computer Science, Arts & Science

	Ilia Binder, Chair of Dept. of Mathematical & Computational Sciences, UTM Michael Molloy, Chair of Dept. of Computer and Mathematical Sciences, UTSC
Version date: Please change as you edit this proposal.	February 25, 2026
Consultation and Governance	
Provost's Advisory Group	February 11, 2026
VPAP Sign-off	February 18, 2026
Faculty/divisional governance	**Faculty of Arts & Science:** March 18, 2026: Arts & Science Council, for information **UTM:** March 11, 2026: UTM Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), for information **UTSC:** March 10, 2026: UTSC Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), for information
AP&P for recommendation	March 31, 2026
Academic Board for approval	April 16, 2026
Executive Committee of Governing Council for confirmation	May 4, 2026
External Approval	
Ontario Quality Council	N/A
Submitted to MCU	N/A

1. Summary

Please provide a brief overview of the proposed degree summarizing the key points from each section of the proposal. (You may wish to complete this section last.)

This is a proposal to introduce the Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) degree as a first-entry four-year Honours undergraduate degree that is conferred by the University of Toronto. The new degree will be offered by the Faculty of Arts & Science (Arts &

Science) on the St. George campus, the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC).

In addition to this proposal to introduce the BCS degree, Arts & Science, UTM and UTSC will each bring forward a separate major modification proposal to re-point their existing programs in Computer Science, Data Science, Bioinformatics & Computational Biology, and Information Security, all of which currently lead to the Honours Bachelor of Science, to the new degree. These programs are:

Faculty of Arts & Science:

- Computer Science, Specialist ASSPE1689
- Computer Science, Major ASMAJ1689
- Data Science, Specialist ASSPE1687
- Bioinformatics & Computational Biology, Specialist ASSPE1868

University of Toronto Mississauga:

- Computer Science, Specialist ERSPE1688
- Computer Science, Major ERMAJ1688
- Information Security, Specialist ERSPE1038

University of Toronto Scarborough:

- Specialist and Specialist (Co-operative) in Computer Science
    - Comprehensive Stream SCSPE0510 & Co-op SCSPE0510C
    - Information Systems Stream SCSPE0455 & Co-op SCSPE0455C
    - Software Engineering Stream SCSPE0795 & Co-op SCSPE0795C
    - Entrepreneurship Stream SCSPE0805 & Co-op SCSPE0805C
    - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Stream & Co-op (this is a new stream with an anticipated start date of September 2026 that is being brought forward through a major modification proposal; it is being included, here, pending approval during the 2025-26 governance year)
- Computer Science, Major SCMAJ1688 & Co-op SCMAJ1688C

There are no changes to the program objectives, program-level learning outcomes, admission requirements, or completion requirements of the programs that will be re-pointed to the new degree. The Degree-Level Expectations (DLEs) for the new degree will be the same as the existing, approved Bachelor's DLEs at each division. The degree

requirements for the new degree will be aligned with the existing Honours Bachelor of Science degree requirements at each division.

There are no changes to the faculty delivering the programs at each division. Nor are there any changes to the academic homes of the programs, student academic support services, space, infrastructure, or equipment.

2.Effective Date

The new degree will be available as of September 1, 2027.

- Updates to the OUAC application form to include the new degree will be implemented in June 2026.
- The new degree will be included in the 2027-28 undergraduate Academic Calendars for the Faculty of Arts & Science (Arts & Science), University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), and University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC), when they are published in Spring/Summer 2027.

First date students can be conferred with the new degree: June 2028.

- There will be a transition period for students who have already been admitted to the University before September 1, 2027, during which students in any of the Arts & Science, UTM, or UTSC Specialist or Major programs being re-pointed to the new degree will be able to graduate with either the Honours Bachelor of Science OR the new Bachelor of Computer Science.
- Students who are newly admitted to the University as of September 2027 who enrol in any of the relevant Specialist or Major programs will graduate with the new degree.[1]

3.Academic Rationale

Please use the headings below:

[1] Conferral of the degree depends on the combination of programs completed, as described in the Degree Requirements in Appendices A.2 (Faculty of Arts & Science), B.2 (University of Toronto Mississauga) and C.2 (University of Toronto Scarborough), below.

- Identify what is being proposed and provide an academic rationale for the proposed degree (What will the new degree nomenclature signal to students, future graduate schools, and employers?)
- Context
  - Discuss how the proposed degree addresses the current state of the discipline or area of study. Identify the issues giving rise to the creation of this degree (is this degree the recognized degree of institutional peers; is it a more or less rigorous degree compared with the HBSc in Computer Science; is it meaningful/essential for employers, students, etc?). Where appropriate, speak to changes in the area of study or student needs that may have given rise to this development.
  - Which existing programs can lead to the new degree?
  - Describe the consistency of the degree with the University's mission as specified within the Statement of Institutional Purpose and unit/divisional academic plan and priorities.

What is being proposed:
The Faculty of Arts & Science (Arts & Science), the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) are proposing to introduce the Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) as a first-entry four-year Honours undergraduate degree that is conferred by the University of Toronto.

Academic Rationale:
The discipline of computer science encompasses both the theory and practice of computing, including hardware and software development, computing systems, algorithms, and artificial intelligence. While a relatively young field, Computer Science has expanded rapidly in depth and breadth over the past 60 years as both technology and applications have evolved. Early applications of computing focused on their ability to perform robust mathematical calculations and data processing (being less error-prone than humans), for example with codebreaking, physics simulations, weather forecasting, and ballistics. As technology advanced, there was an explosion of computation in both everyday lives and industry. Personal computers (and later, devices like smartphones and virtual reality) changed how people interact with computing devices, which caused the field to evolve to consider how people interact with technology, how to design efficient algorithms for everyday use, and how to design software for various forms of hardware. The creation of the Internet was also

transformative in allowing new forms of communication across distances, opening new forms of commerce and entertainment, and posing new challenges (e.g., with computer systems to handle the vast volume of Internet traffic; with cybersecurity).

The history of computer science education at the University of Toronto mirrors the evolution of the field. The Arts & Science Calendar entry for Computer Science from 1971 emphasized the application of computer science to other disciplines: “computers are being used in a wide variety of areas, and students often study computing primarily in order to use computer techniques in their own specialties.” The roster of courses was small and the scope narrow, with a strong emphasis on the mathematical foundations of the field. At UTM and UTSC at this time, courses in computer science were offered by the mathematics department. UTSC offered three such courses – an introduction to computing, problem solving with computers, and programming languages and their applications. UTM also offered three courses – computer programming; programming languages and applications; and computer organization and assembly – language programming. Arts & Science had a similar roster of courses, with additional offerings in computer graphics and programming techniques for data processing.

Today, the discipline has greatly expanded to include new areas including machine learning, quantum computing, cybersecurity, health informatics, data privacy, and ethical concerns of the new technologies. The array of courses in the field of computer science at all three divisions reflects this seismic transformation. For example, UTM offers more than 50 distinct courses ranging from the foundational building blocks, such as the theory of computation, computer organization, data structures, networks, databases and numerical methods, software design and engineering, to a wide array of courses on topics like programming on the web, AI, machine learning, parallel programming, computational complexity, neural networks and deep learning, reinforcement learning, image understanding, cryptography, computer forensics, security, operating systems design, algorithm design, video game design, robotics, and computing education.

Current programs also illustrate the tremendous scope of the computer science discipline. UTSC offers four tailored streams in computer science – a comprehensive stream, software engineering, entrepreneurship, and information systems. UTM has an information security specialist program alongside its specialist and major programs, and numerous courses in robotics. Arts & Science offers Focuses for their Major and Specialist programs in nine different areas - Artificial Intelligence, Computational

Linguistics and Natural Language Processing, Computer Systems, Computer Vision, Game Design, Human-Computer Interaction, Scientific Computing, Theory of Computation, and Web and Internet Technologies.

Currently at U of T, the degree that recognizes expertise in this field is the Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc). However, given the growth and evolution of the discipline of computer science, the Honours Bachelor of Science no longer communicates accurately the depth and breadth of computer science training that students receive. Introducing the new degree at U of T responds to the evolution of the discipline of computer science, recognizes expertise in the discipline, and keeps U of T at the leading edge of it.

The nomenclature of this four-year honours degree will be Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS), which aligns with norms at the University of Toronto and with similar degree programs elsewhere.

The Bachelor of Computer Science signals to students, graduate schools, employers, and other stakeholders that its recipients acquire a great depth of education in Computer Science that is far beyond its nascent curricula, which focused on “learning to code” as it applied to advancing research in other disciplines. Students now acquire deep technical knowledge and tremendous breadth within computer science that they can leverage across industries and contribute meaningfully to the creation of technological innovation. The BCS is a better degree designation than the HBSc for students in the discipline of computer science, because the specificity of its nomenclature more clearly signals students’ breadth and depth of study in computer science in particular.

U of T is an academic leader for the discipline of computer science in Canada and the world. Few other institutions can match U of T’s research impact and breadth in the discipline nor its capacity to offer both a deep and broad education in the discipline of computer science. The Bachelor of Computer Science degree is conferred by other Canadian universities, including the University of Waterloo, as well as innovative, cutting-edge world leaders in the field, such as the National University of Singapore.

4.Need and Demand

- Provide a brief description of the need and demand for the proposed degree and how this has been determined, focusing, as appropriate, on:
  - student interest (e.g., will the new degree benefit students in the context of graduate school or employment?);
  - societal need;
  - employment opportunities for prospective graduates;
  - interest expressed by potential employers;
  - professional associations;
  - government agencies or policy bodies.
- How is the degree distinct from other degrees at U of T? (Address, if relevant, how this degree might affect enrolment in other degrees offered here.)
- With specific reference to the impact on need and demand, describe how the proposed degree relates to (is similar to or different from) existing degrees offered by other universities in North America and internationally (with specific reference to Canadian and Ontario examples). Please fill out and refer to the table in Appendix D listing the comparator degrees.

Discussions regarding the opportunities provided by the introduction of a Bachelor of Computer Science degree at the University were initiated in 2023, following student expression of interest in being conferred with a distinct Computer Science degree. As detailed below, students have indicated a strong desire for a distinct degree to recognize, on the diploma, the Computer Science content in their studies.

Student Interest

Currently, students at the University of Toronto who complete undergraduate Specialist and Major programs in Computer Science, Data Science, Bioinformatics & Computational Biology, and Information Security are normally conferred with the Honours Bachelor of Science. Although the programs completed are named on the transcript, the programs are not specified on the diploma or captured in the name of the degree. In the past, student forums have expressed interest for recognition of the depth of training in computer science to be reflected on their diploma (parchment).

A survey, conducted in Winter 2025, of students in a Computer Science Major or Specialist program across the University tri-campus indicated a high level of support for

a Bachelor of Computer Science degree designation over a Bachelor of Science degree designation.

The first survey question asked: “If you had the choice of graduating with the Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Computer Science, which degree would you choose?”

At the Faculty of Arts & Science, 575 students responded and 427 (75%) chose the Bachelor of Computer Science. At University of Toronto Mississauga, 96 students responded and 66 chose the Bachelor of Computer Science (69%). At University of Toronto Scarborough, 55 students responded and 41 (75%) chose the Bachelor of Computer Science.

The surveys allowed for open-ended comments and feedback from students, which added insight into the student interest in the Bachelor of Computer Science degree.

Representative statements include the following:

- “It can show my depth of learning the field in computer science” - UTSC
- “Better reflects my skill set” - UTSC
- “I completely agree with the fact that ‘the new degree would recognize the depth of training in the field received by students completing programs in Computer Science at the University of Toronto.’ It would also eliminate potential confusion to employers about my program.” - UTM
- “Clearer to prospective employers that I studied Computer Science rather than having to specify my major.” - UTM
- “It's a CS degree. and specialist goes more in depth than a major. telling people outside of UofT that I'm a specialist means nothing. bachelor of computer science would much better reflect my studies at UofT” - Arts & Science
- “Looks better on a resume” – UTSC
- “The extra hard work and merit required to get into the Computer Science as well as finishing the coursework should be recognised. Hence the Major and Specialist programs in Computer Science deserve their own degree.” - Arts & Science

Students enrolled in two additional programs with considerable computer science content were surveyed as well: the Arts & Science Data Science Specialist, and Arts & Science Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Specialist. The Chairs of the Department of Statistical Sciences and the Department of Cell & Systems Biology

worked with the Arts & Science Dean's Office to develop five-question surveys to be sent to their current students in the Data Science Specialist (Statistical Science) and the Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Specialist (Cell & Systems Biology) to inquire as to their support for the program pointing to the new degree. The students surveyed in both these programs responded positively. The first question asked students: "If you had the choice of graduating with a Bachelor of Science or a Bachelor of Computer Science, which degree would you choose?" For the Bioinformatics & Computational Biology (BCB) Specialist (43 respondents in total), 67.4% chose the Bachelor of Computer Science, 16.3% chose the Bachelor of Science, and 16.3% were uncertain. For the Data Science Specialist, (27 respondents in total), 85.2% chose the Bachelor of Computer Science, 7.4% chose the Bachelor of Science, and 7.4% were uncertain. After these consultations, the Department of Statistical Sciences confirmed that they wished to repoint the Data Science Specialist to the new degree. The Department of Cell & Systems Biology requested that the BCB program be included tentatively, pending further consultations with their students.

In November 2025, the Department of Cell & Systems Biology and the Arts & Science Dean's Office again discussed the possibility of repointing the BCB Specialist, and the Department sent another survey to BCB students at the beginning of December. The results from these surveys indicated a high level of student support for the new degree as well, and the Department confirmed that they wished to repoint the BCB specialist to the Bachelor of Computer Science.

Interest Expressed by Employers

To test how the new degree may be perceived by employers, a survey was designed and sent to more than 300 industry partners at the Faculty of Arts & Science through its Office of Experiential Learning and Outreach Support. Seventeen employers responded. Nearly all respondents (16 out of 17) were either supportive (7) or ambivalent (9) to the creation of the new degree. Only 1 employer preferred the Bachelor of Science over the proposed new degree. When responding to the survey question "Would a student holding a Bachelor of Computer Science be more attractive as a job candidate than a student holding a Bachelor of Science degree?", 7 employers said it was "more attractive", 9 chose "no difference", and 1 chose "less attractive" and added a comment explaining this was "only based on the fact that we are a clinical CRO and computer science is less important for our field."

Employment and Graduate Opportunities

Computer scientists are employed in a wide array of industries and occupations, hence students graduating with a Bachelor of Computer Science will be qualified for employment in a broad range of areas related to Computer Science including[2]:

- Development (including Front-End Developer, Game Developer, Web Developer, Software Engineer, Programmer)
- Infrastructure (including Operations Research Analyst, System Administrator, Network Engineer, Computer Operations Manager, DevOps Manager, Automation Engineer, and Hardware Architect)
- Data (including Data Mining Specialist, Security Specialist, Machine Learning Analyst, Database Administrator, Data Scientist)
- Design (including UI/UX Designer, Information Architect, Research Scientist, Usability Engineer, Software Architecture Consultant, Quality Assurance Specialist)
- Business (Systems Analyst, Ethics Officer, Business Analyst, Content Specialist, and SEO Specialist)
- Management (ITS Manager, Project Manager, Chief Information Officer, Application Development Manager)

Employment opportunities in Computer Science posted on the University's Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network portal (CLNx) provide an idea of where current and past opportunities exist. Some of these include:

- Application Tester, Ministry of Community and Social Services
- Bioinformatician, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
- Cloud/Application Software Engineer, Teradata
- Data Analyst, Air Canada
- Database Consultant, Department of Sociology, UTM
- Full Stack Developer, Hatch Canada
- Help Desk Consultant, Computing Services, UTM
- Mathematician, Cryptanalyst and Data Scientist, Government of Canada
- Microsoft Technical Sales, Microsoft
- Project Manager, Evertz Microsystems Ltd.
- Security Analyst, Department of Mathematical and Computational Sciences, UTM

[2] Taken from R. Connolly, J. Miller, & F.Uzoka, *Computing Careers & Disciplines: A Quick Guide for Prospective Students and Career Advisors, 3rd* ed (2025).

- Software Engineer, Yelp
- Technical Assistant, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
- Technical Writer, Altera
- Web Developer, Undergraduate Commerce Society, UTM

Students who complete the new degree would be eligible for further graduate education in Computer Science or related fields of study. For example,

- Master of Science, Computer Science
- Doctor of Philosophy, Computer Science
- Master of Science in Applied Computing
- Master of Applied Science in Computer Engineering
- Master of Data Science

Distinctiveness of the New Degree at the University of Toronto

The Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) is distinct from other undergraduate degrees that are currently conferred by the University of Toronto. For example, the Honours Bachelor of Arts (HBA) is conferred when students in Arts & Science, UTM, and UTSC have achieved expertise in arts and humanities disciplines such as English, History, French, Film Studies, Sociology, etc. This degree signals to graduate schools and employers that the applicant has developed their skills in critical analysis and communication. The Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc) is conferred when students in Arts & Science, UTM, and UTSC have achieved expertise in science disciplines such as Mathematics, Statistics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, etc. This degree signals to graduate schools and employers that the applicant has developed their skills in science methodologies and depth and breadth of a body of scientific knowledge. The Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) and/or the Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) are conferred when students in Arts & Science, UTM, and UTSC have achieved expertise in Business and Management. This degree signals to graduate schools and employers that the applicant has developed a grounding in the business and management disciplines and an integrated set of management skills such as strategy, leadership and communication.

Conferral of the proposed Bachelor of Computer Science will signal expertise in the various sub-disciplines of Computer Science, such as Artificial Intelligence, Computational Linguistics and Natural Language Processing, Computer Systems, Computer Vision, Game Design, Human-Computer Interaction, Scientific Computing,

Theory of Computation, and Web and Internet Technologies. This degree will signal to graduate schools and employers that the applicant has developed a depth and breadth of knowledge of the field of Computer Science and skills in designing software, developing computer applications such as databases and graphics and the theory of computer science.

With the addition of the Bachelor of Computer Science as a degree that is conferred by the University of Toronto, we can expect a decrease in the number of Honours Bachelor of Science degrees that are conferred, since Computer Science and related programs at Arts & Science, UTM and UTSC that currently point to the Honours Bachelor of Science degree will be re-pointed to the Bachelor of Computer Science degree. See Section 5, Enrolment, below.

New Degree in Comparator Institutions in Canada and Internationally

The Bachelor of Computer Science (or Bachelor of Computing) degree is conferred by other Canadian institutions, including: the University of Waterloo, ranked #2 for Computer Science in Canada after the University of Toronto (#1), Concordia University (#12), Queen's University (#15), Carleton University (#15), University of Guelph (#15), and the University of Windsor (#15).[3] The University of British Columbia (UBC), ranked #4, offers a second-degree Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS), which is designed for students who have already completed a degree in another field. UBC's BCS thus indicates the demand for a degree that can signal expertise in Computer Science to employers.

The Bachelor of Computer Science degree is also conferred at leading universities such as the National University of Singapore (#4 in QS World Rankings by Subject 2025), and, for example, two universities in Switzerland: ETH Zurich (#10 in QS World Rankings by Subject 2025) and EPFL – École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (#15 in QS World Rankings by Subject 2025).[4] While this degree is not commonly conferred in the United States, this is in line with less differentiation observed across the higher education sector in the United States. To account for this difference, during the immediate period

[3] Rankings are according to the Times Higher Education 2025 subject rankings, https://www.timeshighereducation.com/student/best-universities/best-universities-canada-computer-science-degrees.

[4] Taken from QS Subject Rankings 2025, https://www.topuniversities.com/university-subject-rankings/computer-science-information-systems; According to Shanghai subject rankings for 2024, NUS sits #11, ETH is #38, and EFPL between 51-75, https://www.shanghairanking.com/rankings/gras/2024/RS0210.

after which the degree is effective, the divisions, through their departments, will provide guidance for graduating students about how to refer to their new degree and completed program accurately. In the event that a student requires documentation providing more clarity around the nature of their degree, their divisional Registrar's Office can provide a letter confirming degree completion that includes the name(s) of the programs that the student has completed.

The University of Toronto is a recognized academic leader in the discipline of computer science in Canada and the world. The discipline of computer science is growing and evolving, and the Bachelor of Computer Science is a forward-looking degree that recognizes the transformed state of the discipline.

5. Enrolment

- Please provide details regarding the anticipated number of students that will be awarded the new degree, by division, as of the effective date.
- Please provide an explanation of the numbers and their relation to the Faculty/division's enrolment plan.

There will be no changes to the existing enrolment plans of the three divisions (Arts & Science, UTM and UTSC) participating in this proposal to introduce the Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) degree to the University. There is no planned enrolment growth beyond what is already approved at each division. Additionally, there are no changes expected to the existing domestic and international mix of students. All of the programs that will be re-pointed to the new degree, except the Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Specialist, have a direct entry admission stream, and enrolments in these admission streams are carefully planned and managed. Enrolments in the Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Specialist, administered by the Department of Cell & Systems Biology in Arts & Science, are also tightly controlled and limited by laboratory space constraints.

At all three divisions, student applications exceed the number of available spaces, hence the admission caps are binding and define the flow of new students admitted to the repointed programs. Hence the anticipated number of students that will be awarded the new degree, by division, corresponds to current trends in total program enrolment and graduation numbers, which are illustrated below.

In the first suite of tables, below, we provide the total enrolments, from the past seven years (Fall 2018-2024), for the Computer Science and related programs at each of the participating divisions that will be re-pointed to the new degree through separate major modification proposals.

Enrolment History in Computer Science programs that will be re-pointed to the new degree

Arts & Science Enrolment (Source: Arts & Science Supplemental Dashboard, Nov. 1, 2024 count date)

Program Type	Program Title and Code	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
Specialist	ASSPE1689 - SP COMPUTER SCIENCE	1385	1381	1463	1481	1529	1504	1282
Specialist	ASSPE1687 - SP DATA SCI	18	47	66	77	93	117	145
Specialist	ASSPE1868 - SP BIOINFO & COMPUT BIOLOGY	126	141	116	107	94	89	84
Major	ASMAJ1689 - MA COMPUTER SCIENCE	248	292	280	292	286	358	524
Grand Total		**1777**	**1861**	**1925**	**1957**	**2002**	**2068**	**2035**

UTM Enrolment (Source: Program Enrolment at Count Dt Ad-hoc Analysis Tool: Nov. 1, 2024 count date)

Program Type	Program Title and Code	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
Specialist	ERSPE1038 - SP INFORMATION SECURITY	58	68	68	62	69	61	53
	ERSPE1688 - SP COMPUTER SCIENCE	326	417	411	501	532	600	648

Major	ERMAJ1688 - MA COMPUTER SCIENCE	235	264	264	308	316	327	331
Grand Total		**619**	**749**	**743**	**871**	**917**	**988**	**1032**

UTSC Enrolment (Source: UTSC Office of the Registrar, November 1, 2024 count date)

Program Type	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
Specialist & Specialist Co-op	574	633	644	649	662	609	609
Major & Major Co-op	105	97	100	90	80	80	79
Grand Total	**679**	**730**	**744**	**739**	**742**	**689**	**688**

The table below indicates the number of students graduating in a given year with the programs that will be re-pointed to the new degree, for the most recent three years (2022 to 2024). This indicates approximately how many BCS graduates would be expected at each division, given that no changes to enrolments in the repointed programs are anticipated.

Number of Students Graduating by POSt (including spring and fall for each year), 2022-2024, by Division:

	2022	2023	2024
UTSC totals:			
MAJ	34	19	32
SPE	220	211	214
Arts & Science totals:			
MAJ	93	117	135
SPE	421	375	434
UTM totals:			
MAJ	92	86	108
SPE	120	124	148

Note: totals include all programs to be re-pointed to the new degree.

6. Degree Level Expectations and Degree Requirements

- In an appendix, articulate the degree level expectations associated with the new degree.
    - Provide a formal statement of the degree requirements, including the degree admissions requirements and any regulations that allow students to choose the degree they earn depending on the combination of programs they complete, as they will appear in your *Academic Calendar*.
- Below:
    - Describe the new degree; explain why the degree requirements are appropriate and how they help to ensure students are successful.
    - Will this be a first-entry degree (i.e., will students apply from high-school, go into the degree, and only pursue another degree if they leave the program)?

Degree-Level Expectations (DLEs):
The Degree-Level Expectations for the proposed Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) degree will be the same as the existing approved Bachelor's Degree-Level Expectations articulated by each of Arts & Science (see Appendix A1), UTM (see Appendix B1) and UTSC (see Appendix C1). These Degree-Level Expectations are consistent with the Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents (OCAV) Honours Bachelor's Degree level Expectations: https://oucqa.ca/framework/appendix-2/.

Degree Requirements:
The degree requirements for the proposed BCS are aligned with the degree requirements of the Honours Bachelor of Arts (HBA) and Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc) degrees delivered by Arts & Science (see Appendix A2), UTM (see Appendix B2), and UTSC (see Appendix C2). All divisions chose to base their BCS degree requirements on their current HBSc requirements. The proposed BCS will be a first-entry, 4-year Honours degree. When students apply to a division at the University, they apply to an admission category, and then later enrol in a program or a set of programs which point to a degree.

The requirements of the new degree include the following:

- Students must complete at least 20.0 credits;
- Students must complete a Specialist, two Majors, or one Major and two Minors;
- Students must complete at least 6.0 credits in 300/400 (C or D) level courses;
- Students must complete 2.5 credits to 4.0 credits in breadth or distribution requirements, depending on the division; and
- Students must achieve a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 1.85

Each division has additional degree requirements, detailed in Appendices A2, B2, and C2; for example, UTM and Arts & Science require students to complete at least 13.0 credits at the 200+ level, and UTSC requires students to complete at least 1.0 credit at the D-level.

Upon completion of their divisional degree requirements, students will be eligible to graduate with the new degree. Each division has identified the programs and the program combinations that can lead to the new degree, and each has articulated the degree requirements for inclusion in their respective undergraduate Calendars (Appendices A2, B2, and C2).

Students who do not achieve the CGPA degree requirement:
Students who meet all the BCS degree requirements except for the minimum CGPA requirement of 1.85, and whose CGPA falls between 1.5 – 1.84, will be eligible to graduate with the 20.0 credit non-Honours Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree or the 20 credit non-Honours Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree, dependent upon their program combinations and according to their division's guidance as listed below.

Arts & Science: (see Appendix A2, Arts & Science Degree Requirements)
Students who meet all the degree requirements of the BCS except for the CGPA requirement may elect to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree (or Bachelor of Arts, dependent upon the programs completed) provided that their final Cumulative GPA is between 1.5 and 1.84.

UTM: (see Appendix B2, UTM Degree Requirements)
Students who meet all the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Computer Science except for the GPA requirement may elect to graduate with a 4-year Bachelor of Science degree provided they are in Good Standing (i.e., CGPA is 1.50 or more).

UTSC: (see Appendix C2, UTSC Degree Requirements)
A student whose cumulative grade point average (CGPA) is at least 1.50, but less than 1.85, may request to graduate with a Bachelor of Science (BSc). Students combining a Major Program in Arts with a Major Program in Computer Science may request either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BSc).

7.Impact of the Change on Students

- Outline the expected impact on continuing students, and how they will be accommodated.
- Will in progress students be able to choose the degree they graduate with? If yes, please explain who will be eligible among in progress students to receive the degree.
- Explain the impact on graduates (the university does not replace parchments of graduates with a different degree)

Continuing students (students admitted at the University prior to September 1, 2027):
Once the proposed Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) degree is approved, there will be a transition period for continuing students. All in-progress students enrolled in Specialist programs in Computer Science, Data Science, Information Security, and Bioinformatics & Computational Biology will have the choice of graduating with the new Bachelor of Computer Science or the Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc). Only in-progress students who were admitted to the University prior to September 1, 2027 (the effective date for the new degree) will be offered this choice. The default degree for these programs will be the Bachelor of Computer Science, and students who want to be conferred with the Honours Bachelor of Science will need to contact their divisional registrar's office to receive this degree instead.

In-progress students who were admitted to the University prior to September 1, 2027 who are enrolled in a double Major, where one Major is in Computer Science, will have the choice of graduating with the new Bachelor of Computer Science or the Honours Bachelor of Science on the basis of the Computer Science Major, or, if they are also enrolled in an Arts Major, with the Honours Bachelor of Arts. This choice is consistent with current degree requirements at Arts & Science, UTM, and UTSC, whereby students

completing a Major leading to the Honours Bachelor of Science and a Major leading to the Honours Bachelor of Arts can choose to be conferred with either degree. (Note that, in Arts & Science and at UTM, students completing a Major in Computer Science and two Minors will in certain cases have the option to choose with which degree they graduate; refer to Appendices A2 and B2.)

Minor offerings in Computer Science will continue to be categorized as "Science" offerings at all three divisions.

All the divisions are in alignment that the new degree will not be offered retroactively. Students who have already graduated from the programs listed in this proposal will not be able to request to change their degree.

New Students:
There will be no changes to the tuition or grant funding associated with the programs that will be re-pointed to the Bachelor of Computer Science degree.

New students who are admitted to the University for September 2027 in any admission category will receive the degree to which their programs point. If they complete only a Specialist program that points to the Bachelor of Computer Science degree, they will graduate with the Bachelor of Computer Science; they will not have the choice of the Honours Bachelor of Science degree. If students complete a double Major, where one Major is in Computer Science, the default degree would be the Bachelor of Computer Science, but students will continue to have the option to choose the degree associated with their other Major if they wish. (Note that, in Arts & Science and at UTM, students completing a Major in Computer Science and two Minors will in certain cases have the option to choose with which degree they graduate; refer to Appendices A2 and B2.)

Communication Plan

Continuing Students:

Arts & Science

- The Departments of Computer Science, Statistical Sciences, and Cell & Systems Biology will communicate with their current program students by email to inform them of the new degree and the transition plan.

- The Office of the Faculty Registrar (OFR) and Dean's Office, including Student Communications, will manage the communication strategy about where students should go for further information or to speak with advisors.
- Continuing students will be kept informed of the changes by Department website updates, emails and social media communications.

University of Toronto Scarborough

- Communications staff in the Office of the Registrar will work with the Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences to communicate with students currently in Major, Major (Co-op), Specialist, Specialist (Co-op) programs and streams, as well as those admitted but not yet in a POSt about the new degree. This will include website updates, targeted emails, and social media communications.

University of Toronto Mississauga

- The Department of Mathematical and Computational Sciences will communicate with students enrolled in the computer science major and specialist programs and the information security program by email to inform them of the new degree and the transition plan.
- Communications staff in the Office of the Registrar will work with the Department of Mathematical and Computational Sciences to communicate with students currently in Major and Specialist programs, as well as those admitted but not yet in a POSt. This will include website updates, targeted emails, and social media communications.

New Students:

Arts & Science

- The Recruitment and Admissions team in the OFR will collaborate with the Dean's Office, including Student Communications, and Departments to ensure that future student websites, printed materials, and social media channels are updated and that information is shared appropriately at recruitment events (presentations, open houses, campus fairs, etc.)

University of Toronto Scarborough

- UTSC will collaborate with Marketing and Communications, as well as with the Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences to ensure that the Future Students website, printed materials (such as the Viewbook), and social media channels are updated, and that information is shared appropriately through recruitment events (presentations, open houses, school visits, etc.).

University of Toronto Mississauga

- The Student Recruitment and Admissions team will collaborate with the Department and UTM Communications to ensure that future student websites, printed materials (such as the Viewbook), and social channels are updated, and that information is shared appropriately through recruitment events (presentations, open houses, school visits, etc.).

Alumni:

- All the divisions are in alignment that the new degree will not be offered retroactively and students who have already graduated from the programs listed in this proposal will not be able to request to change their degree. Messaging to alumni who inquire will clearly articulate this principle.

8. Consultation

- Describe the expected impact of what is being proposed on the nature and quality of other degrees offered at the University, and programs delivered by academic units/divisions.
- Describe any consultation with the Deans of Faculties/divisions that will be implicated or affected by the creation of the proposed degree as per UTQAP 2.4.2: "The Dean ensures that appropriate consultation is conducted with faculty and students, other University divisions and external institutions."
- Please detail all consultation with students.

Concept and proposal development - Tri-Campus working group process:

This proposal was developed through a consultative, tri-campus working group process. The working group was convened in spring 2024 and first met on June 30, 2024 (see Appendix E for working group terms of reference and meeting schedule.) Throughout the fall of 2024, proponents from Computer Science departments in Arts & Science, UTM and UTSC formed an academic writing group to collaborate on drafting academic

rationale and need and demand. The following spring, colleagues from each division's registrarial offices convened as an administrative writing group and began joining working group meetings. By May 2025, the administrative writing group drafted divisional degree completion requirements (see Appendices A2-C2), which were discussed by the working group at their May 26, 2025, meeting. The working group convened again on September 15, 2025, and reviewed drafts of the proposal.

Early consultations with employers:

While drafting the rationale in Fall 2024, the Computer Science writing group recommended early consultation with employers about the new degree. In December 2024, a five-question survey was developed and sent out through the Faculty of Arts & Science's Office of Experiential Learning and Outreach Support to a list of their current and potential employers. The employers represented industry portfolios including Information Technology: Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services; and Information Technology: Software and Computer Systems Design. 17 responses were received, with nearly all the employers surveyed (16 out of 17) being either supportive (7) or ambivalent (9) to the creation of the new degree.

Early consultations with students at UTM, Arts & Science, and UTSC:

Also in Fall 2024, the Computer Science writing group oversaw an early consultation with their departments' students. A five-question survey was developed for students currently enrolled in the Departments' Major and Specialist programs. Between January and February 2025, all three divisions sent out the survey through their respective departments. Student support for the new degree was overwhelmingly positive across all three divisions, as described in Section 4. In Spring 2025, Arts & Science held additional consultations with their Department of Statistical Sciences and their Department of Cell & Systems Biology, and each department administered a survey to their program students. Students indicated strong support for the new degree. The Department of Statistical Sciences confirmed they wished to repoint their Data Science Specialist to the new degree. The Department of Cell & Systems Biology tentatively confirmed for their Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Specialist, pending further student consultations. In November 2025, the Department of Cell & Systems Biology surveyed their students again and confirmed that they wished to include the Bioinformatics & Computational Biology Specialist in the proposal for the new degree as well.

In addition to the above steps, each division has undergone a series of consultations with key stakeholder groups, outlined below by division.

Faculty of Arts & Science (Arts & Science)

Consultations by Arts & Science Department of Computer Science:
The Department of Computer Science discussed this proposal at faculty meetings, which include faculty with graduate appointments in the Department, in Summer and Fall 2025. Support from faculty was positive, with no substantive concerns raised.

Student Feedback:
In November 2025, the Department of Computer Science held an additional student focus group with the goal of receiving qualitative feedback from students. Some students supported the change, and others mainly asked for concrete explanations of how it would affect their academic and student experience and reassurance about international recognition. Concerns can be addressed through transparent guidance, clear policy commitments, and opportunities for dialogue.

Consultations by the Arts & Science Dean's Office:
On November 12, 2025, a two-page overview of the proposal for the new degree was presented by the Vice-Dean Academic Planning to a meeting of the Dean's leadership team, the Faculty Management Team (FMT), composed of all the Vice-Deans, Associate Deans, and administrative portfolio leads. FMT supported adding a BCS item to the agenda for the Council of Chairs, Principals & Academic Directors (CPAD) Sectorals Meetings on December 5, 2025, and sending the two-page overview beforehand. On November 17, 2025, the two-page overview of the new degree proposal was sent by email to CPAD for information. In follow-up, on December 2, a November 19, 2025, draft proposal was shared with **CPAD** by email for their review in advance of the two December 5 CPAD sectoral meetings (one for Humanities and Social Sciences and one for Sciences), where the Vice-Dean, Academic Planning led an item for discussion and feedback. At the December 5 meetings, some questions were raised, including what impacts to others beyond students were anticipated, and about the rationale for Computer Science having a separate degree. For the rationale, The Vice-Dean Academic Planning and Vice-Dean Undergraduate pointed to the breadth of Computer Science, that it encompasses several fields, and to the existence of the degree at comparator institutions. The Vice-Dean Academic Planning also mentioned that an implementation group had been formed to consider the impact to academic advising across the tri

campus, noting the importance of ensuring communication about new degree was effective and consistent. No concerns were raised on the new degree proposal itself.

The Interim Dean, Stephen Wright, and Vice-Dean Undergraduate, Randy Boyagoda, presented the November 19 draft proposal to the Faculty of **Arts & Science Students' Union (ASSU) Executive** at their November 28, 2025, meeting with the Dean's Office. The ASSU Executive asked why we would make a new degree for Computer Science, and if consultation with students had already occurred. The Vice-Dean, Undergraduate, explained that students in the relevant Computer Science programs had been consulted by a survey and results had been favour of the new degree. The Vice-Dean, Undergraduate also explained that the majority of students, who had been consulted, supported it and thought the degree communicated more clearly to employers their specialization in Computer Science and its distinct value. The ASSU Executive indicated that they may solicit their own input from students on this topic, and they were encouraged to do so at their discretion.

The Vice-Dean, Academic Planning, shared the November 19 draft proposal with the Arts & Science **Communication & Consultation (C&C)** group, composed of department administrators and Associate Chairs, in advance of their November 27, 2025, meeting. Questions from the group focused on implementation, whether students who did not fulfill the degree requirements would still be able to graduate, and whether other changes to course registrations or programs were expected. The Vice-Dean, Academic Planning, emphasized that the programs were not changing so no changes were expected to course registrations, fees, and that convocation arrangements were not part of the proposal. No concerns were expressed about the proposal.

At the January 19, 20, and 21, 2026, meetings of the **Arts & Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committees** (Humanities, Sciences, and Social Sciences, respectively), the Arts & Science Vice-Dean, Academic Planning led an item for discussion and feedback on the BCS. She provided an overview of the forthcoming new degree proposal and the forthcoming major modification to repoint four Arts & Science programs, the consultation and development process underlying the proposals, and the planned timelines for governance and approval steps. At the Humanities meeting, a member inquired which degree would be the "default" assumed for a student who completes a repointed program in addition to a program that would give them the choice of another degree (e.g., a Specialist in Computer Science and a major in Philosophy), and the Vice-Dean responded that the Bachelor of Computer Science would be the default degree

and students could seek to change that default to their other degree. At the Sciences meeting, one member inquired to confirm that nothing substantive about the programs was changing as a result of this proposal. Another member inquired whether students in the Computer Science minor, or enrolled in other units' programs but seeking access to Computer Science courses, would have any change in access to Computer Science courses, and it was confirmed that there would be no such changes in course access as a result of this repointing proposal. At the Social Sciences meeting, there were no questions or comments from the group.

University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM)

Consultations by UTM Department of Mathematical & Computational Sciences (MCS):
The MCS Department sent a survey to all students (a) enrolled in any CS program and (b) enrolled in CSC108, which leads to enrollment in a CS program at the end of the first year. The survey contained a brief summary of the proposed degree, including a note that the word "Honours" would not prepend the degree and that students would not be able to choose between a Sciences and Computer Science degree. The survey asked students three questions:

- Do you support the creation of a new Bachelor of Computer Science, as outlined above?
- Would you choose to graduate with the new Bachelor of Computer Science, if you were choosing between it and an Honours Bachelor of Science or Arts?
- Do you have any feedback on the proposed degree?

64 responses were received in the month of November, and an overwhelming number (80%) were supportive of the proposal. The students who were not in support argued that the "Honours Bachelors of Science" was a known degree and that they either (a) did not see value in a new name or (b) were concerned that employers would see it as a more narrow, less valuable degree.

At the same time, computer science faculty in the department were informed about the degree in a faculty meeting and asked to provide feedback. Faculty reception was mixed, with the majority holding no strong feeling about the proposal. A small number of faculty were vocally supportive, noting student reception to the name change and the potential to create a stronger sense of community, and two faculty were not in support.

These two cited the lack of an “Honours” prefix. One faculty member argued that we should not adopt the Bachelor of Computer Science if it lacked the Honours prefix, citing student and industry perception of the two degrees, one of which is labeled “honours” and the other of which is not. They believe that our students would be at a disadvantage with the new degree.

University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC)

Consultations by the UTSC Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences (CMS):
Informal discussions about the proposed new BCS degree were held with faculty and students throughout the months of November and December 2025. This engagement was augmented by a formal presentation and discussion during a faculty meeting on November 24, 2025. The BCS degree proposal was approved unanimously by the department’s Curriculum Committee on January 6, 2026.

Consultations by the Dean’s Office:
The Vice-Dean, Teaching, Learning, and Undergraduate Programs and the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Curriculum made a brief mention of the tri-campus development of the BCS degree at the October 31, 2025 Chairs’ Council, with additional updates planned for the Winter 2026 term. Further details regarding the proposed Bachelor of Computer Science and the accompanying major modification proposal were disseminated to members of the Chairs Council on Monday, January 26, 2026. Members of the Chairs Council were given a deadline of Friday, January 30, 2026, to provide feedback. No questions or comments were received.

On February 4, 2026, UTSC’s Vice-Dean, Teaching, Learning and Undergraduate Programs emailed the Scarborough Campus Students’ Union (SCSU) with a slide deck providing an overview of the new degree proposal and invited any comments or feedback by the end of day on February 9. The SCSU responded on February 10 expressing their support for the proposed degree and for the repointing of the Computer Science programs to the new degree.

University of Toronto-wide Consultations:
The Arts & Science Vice-Dean, Academic Planning, along with representatives from Arts & Science’s, UTM’s, and UTSC’s computer science departments and dean’s offices respectively, held consultations with decanal representatives at the **Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering** (December 1, 2025) and the **Faculty of Information** (December

10, 2025). The Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering communicated strong support for the proposal, stating they saw the degree as a good thing for students. The Faculty of Information appreciated the consultation and thought it was a straightforward and clear proposal. They asked if the new degree would cause any changes to the Computer Science course (CSC108H1), which is a required course for Faculty of Information students, but they were reassured that the creation of the new degree has no impact to their students' access to computer science courses. They expressed no concerns about the proposal for the new degree.

Summary list of consultations:

Faculty of Arts & Science:

Consultations by Dean's Office:

- Nov. 12, 2025: Dean's Office Leadership – the Faculty Management Team (FMT)
- Nov. 17, 2025: Council of Principals, Chairs, and Academic Directors (CPAD)
- Nov. 21, 2025: Department of Statistical Sciences
- Nov. 25, 2025: Department of Cell & Systems Biology
- Nov. 27, 2025: Communication & Consultation (C&C) group
- Nov. 28, 2025: Arts & Science Students' Union (ASSU) Executive
- Dec. 5, 2025: CPAD Sectorals meetings (Humanities + Social Sciences and Sciences)

UTM:

- Vice-Deans, Associate Deans & Dean group (Sept 17, 2025)
- Dean's advisory group including UTM CIP team (Sept 24, 2025)
- Chairs & Directors (October 7, 2025)
- Faculty, Department of Mathematical and Computational Sciences (November 6, 2025)
- Undergraduate Student Groups and in-program students (November 6-28, 2025)
- Faculty, Department of Mathematical and Computational Sciences (major mod) (January 19, 2026)

UTSC:

- Chairs Council (October 31, 2025 and January 26-30, 2026)

- Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences (CMS) and its departmental curriculum committee (November 24, 2025 and January 6, 2026)
- Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU, February 4-10, 2026)

University-wide consultations

- Dec. 1, 2025: Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering
- Dec. 10, 2025: Faculty of Information

9.Resources

- Describe any resource implications of the change, for example, you might discuss here any resources needed to communicate the change to in progress students in different publications, for example the academic calendar, and changes to materials that communicate with students and faculty (e.g., recruitment materials).

There are no changes to the faculty delivering the programs at each division. Nor are there any changes to the academic homes of the programs, student academic support services, space, infrastructure, or equipment. Any resources required to support the communication plan and administrative changes to systems to add the new degree will be provided by the participating divisions.

All divisions will work with University of Toronto Communications (UTC) and the Office of Student Recruitment (OSR) to update the central "Future Students" website, viewbooks, staff training, and so on. Each division has a suite of communication tools and techniques to communicate the changes to students, as described, below.

Arts & Science:

Arts & Science Governance

- Once the new Degree Proposal (and Major Modifications to repoint pertinent programs) pass through governance, the team will work to prepare content for the 2027-28 Arts & Science Academic Calendar
- For Curriculum Manager (CM) and Curriculum Publisher (CP), the team will work with EASI as needed to prepare Calendar sections like degree completion requirements, departmental sections, etc.

Arts & Science Office of the Faculty Registrar

- Update Degree Explorer
- Partner with **Student Communications** to develop a holistic student communications plan for new degree. This will include:
    - Updates to the Arts & Science website
    - Updates to recruitment materials such as viewbooks, brochures, prospective student/applicant emails, etc.
    - Update to recruitment key messages for prospective student and applicants
    - Social media plan

Arts & Science Department of Computer Science (DCS)

- Updates to the Department's website, brochures, and so on.

UTM:

UTM Governance

- Once the new Degree proposal (and Major Modifications) pass through governance, update UTM Academic Calendar
- Update relevant Calendar sections including degree completion requirements, departmental sections, etc.

UTM Office of the Registrar

- Update Degree Explorer
- Focus on student communications through:
    - Updates to UTM Office of the Registrar website
    - Updates to recruitment materials such as viewbooks, brochures, prospective student/applicant emails, etc.
    - Update to recruitment key messages for prospective student and applicants
    - Update to academic advising websites and messaging
    - Update to current student communications templates
    - Social media plan

UTM Department of Mathematical and Computational Sciences

- Updates to departmental website, brochures, advising messages, etc.

UTSC:

UTSC Governance

- Once the new Degree proposal (and Major Modifications to repoint pertinent programs) pass through governance, the Programs and Curriculum Team will work with the Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences and the Office of the Registrar to prepare content for the 2027-28 UTSC Academic Calendar
- The Programs and Curriculum Team will work with EASI as needed to modify existing and create new Calendar sections pertaining to degree completion requirements, departmental sections, etc.

UTSC Office of the Registrar

- Update Degree Explorer
- Focus on student communications through:
    - Updates to UTSC Office of the Registrar website
    - Updates to recruitment materials such as viewbooks, brochures, prospective student/applicant emails, etc.
    - Update to recruitment key messages for prospective student and applicants
    - Update to current student communications templates
    - Social media plan

UTSC Department of Computer & Mathematical Sciences

- Updates to departmental website, brochures, advising messages, etc.

UTSC Academic Advising & Career Centre

- Updates to departmental website, brochures, advising messages, etc.

Appendix A.1: Faculty of Arts & Science Proposed Degree Level Expectations for the Bachelor of Computer Science

As defined here: https://www.vpacademic.utoronto.ca/academic-programs/degree-diploma-certificate-programs/degree-level-expectations/

1. Introduction

This document specifies the overall learning objectives and requirements adopted by the Faculty of Arts and Science, and a statement of Degree Level Expectations that encapsulates the aims of those objectives and requirements within the categories proposed for this purpose by the Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents.

2. Degree Learning Objectives and Requirements

2.1 Overall Learning Objectives

The Faculty of Arts & Science aims to provide to all of its undergraduate students

"***a rich educational environment that produces global citizens whose depth of learning within an investigative framework enables and inspires them to:***

- ***pursue lifelong learning within their field of study and more broadly;***
- ***draw meaningful connections across a range of knowledge areas;***
- ***relate their knowledge to complex and constantly changing situations in the workplace or the world;***
- ***interpret situations, arrive at judgments, solve problems, and make decisions in an informed and responsible manner;***
- ***participate meaningfully as leaders and community partners."***

[from the Final Report of the Curriculum Review and Renewal Committee, August 2007]

In order to achieve this, we have proposed the following general learning objectives:

a. Depth of knowledge that cultivates critical understanding and intellectual rigour in at least one field of study.
b. Competencies in learning and applying knowledge that are fundamental to responsible and effective participation in the workplace, in the community,

in scholarly activity, and in personal life:

i. Critical and Creative Thinking
ii. Communication
iii. Information Literacy
iv. Quantitative Reasoning
v. Social and Ethical Responsibility

c. Breadth of knowledge across a range of knowledge areas that reflect the richness of the arts, the complexity of global cultures, and the varied structures, processes, and concepts of the social and natural world.
d. Integration of skills and knowledge developed in a student's course of study within an inquiry-based activity in the upper years.

In order to graduate with an honours degree, each student must have met the requirements outlined in Section 2.2, each of which are based on assessment of specific learning outcomes associated with the learning objectives summarized above.

2.2 Requirements to Graduate

The Faculty of Arts & Science requires in order to graduate with an honours degree that the student has achieved the following:

1. Obtained standing in at least 20 courses that meet the following criteria:
    a. No more than six courses may be at the 100-series level.
    b. At least six courses must be at the 300+ series level.
    c. No more than fifteen courses may have the same three-letter designator.
2. Completed one of the following program of study requirements:
    a. A specialist program of study (POSt).
    b. Two major POSts, which must include 12 different courses.
    c. A major POSt with two minor POSts, which together must include at least 12 different courses.
3. Completed the Faculty's breadth requirement.
4. Obtained a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 1.85.

In this context, a course is defined as one full-course equivalent, which may consist of a full-year "Y" course, or two half-courses ("S", "F" or "H").

3. Degree Level Expectations for Honours Bachelor Degrees (H.B.A., H.B.Sc., B.C.S., and B.Com.)

3.1 Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

Depth of Knowledge
Students will achieve mastery of a topic which is characterized by several of the following traits: understanding of advanced subject material as determined by those in the discipline or interdisciplinary area of study; command of increasingly advanced material that progressively probes (an aspect of) the subject more thoroughly; competence in using the scholarly materials and research tools relevant to the discipline or interdisciplinary areas of study; ability to produce a substantial research or inquiry-based work; and capacity to draw together a broad range of prior learning and apply it to a challenging problem or topic

Breadth of Knowledge
Students will gain an appreciation of the variety of modes of thinking, methods of inquiry and analysis, and ways of understanding that underpin different intellectual fields. They will further develop an understanding of how various areas of study intersect and allow for complementary insights on common issues or problems.

3. 2 Knowledge of Methodologies

Students will have a working knowledge of different methodologies and approaches relevant to their studies, and will be able to justify their choices among them when addressing questions that arise in their area of study.

3.3 Application of Knowledge

Students will be able to apply their knowledge and understanding in such activities as: analyzing and evaluating material in their areas of study; developing effective arguments or interpretive approaches; forming hypotheses and posing questions relevant to their fields; crafting solutions to problems, collecting appropriate data, or interpreting novel situations and materials.

3.4 Communication Skills

Students will be able to: organize ideas into coherent arguments supported by appropriate kinds of evidence; structure their communications for varying audiences and contexts; produce effective written work; present their work orally or visually where appropriate to the area of study.

3.5 Awareness of Limits of Knowledge

Students will gain an understanding of the limits to their own knowledge and to the knowledge within their areas of study. They will also gain an appreciation of how uncertainty and ambiguity might influence analyses and interpretations.

3.6 Autonomy and Professional Capacity

Students will develop competencies critical to their pursuit of further study, employment, community involvement and other activities that require life-long learning, decision-making, and personal and social responsibility.

4. Implementation

The Faculty of Arts and Science will maintain an “Administrative Interpretive Appendix” for use by program sponsors that will provide direction and guidelines for interpreting the intent of the statement of DLEs in section 3, and for clarifying the relationship between the DLEs and our degree objectives and associated requirements in section 2.

Appendix A.2: Faculty of Arts & Science: Degree Requirements: Bachelor of Computer Science

Degree requirements – Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS), Faculty of Arts & Science
*__Note:__ the following degree requirements are aligned with the existing degree requirements for the Honours Bachelor of Science

Proposed Calendar content:

Number of Credits	20.0. At least 10.0 credits must be offered by the Faculty of Arts & Science.
Level of Credits	Minimum of 13.0 at the 200/300/400-level At least 6.0 at the 300/400-level
Program Requirements	Computer Science Specialist, Data Science Specialist, or Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Specialist, or Computer Science Major + 1 Major*, or Computer Science Major + 2 Minors* * must consist of 12.0 different credits
Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)	1.85
Breadth Requirement	The Breadth Requirement can be completed in one of two ways: (a) at least 1.0 credit in each of 4 of the 5 categories below, or (b) at least 1.0 credit in each of any 3 of the 5 categories, and at least 0.5 credit in each of the other 2 categories. 1. Creative and Cultural Representations 2. Thought, Belief, and Behaviour 3. Society and Its Institutions 4. Living Things and Their Environment 5. The Physical and Mathematical Universes

To qualify for a Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS), a student must:

a) Obtain standing (i.e., complete with a mark of 50% or higher/P/CR) in at least 20.0 credits that meet the following criteria:

- At least 13.0 credits at the 200+ level, including a minimum of 6.0 credits at the 300+ level. No more than 1.0 credit at the 300+ level in transfer credit may be counted towards the minimum number of 300- and 400-level credits, except transfer credits attained through a University of Toronto exchange program.
- At least 10.0 credits from Faculty of Arts & Science courses. Note that transfer credits attained through a University of Toronto exchange program contribute to this 10.0 credits minimum.
- No more than 15.0 credits may have the same three-letter designator ("AST," "ENG," etc.). Courses beyond this limit will not be included in the 20.0 credits required for the degree, but will be counted in all other respects.

b) Complete one of the following:

- The Computer Science Specialist, Data Science Specialist, or Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Specialist (which include at least 1.0 credit at the 400-level), or
- The Computer Science Major and an additional Major, which must include at least 12.0 different credits, or
- The Computer Science Major and two Minors, which must include at least 12.0 different credits

If a student is enrolled in the Computer Science Major, an additional Major, and one Minor, credits from the Minor can be used to complete the degree requirement of 12.0 different credits across programs as long as:

- the three programs have all been completed and confirmed as complete by the relevant academic units, and
- all degree requirements are complete except the 12.0 different credits.

Whether a student might be eligible to request to graduate instead with an Honours Bachelor of Arts (HBA) or an Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc) depends on the programs that are completed; see Program Requirements.

c) Complete the Arts & Science Breadth Requirement.

d) Obtain a Cumulative GPA of 1.85 or more by the time of graduation. Students who meet all the requirements for the BCS except for the GPA requirement may elect to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science degree provided that their final Cumulative GPA is between 1.5 and 1.84.

Program Requirements

Completion of one or more programs is only one part of the general degree requirements. Variations made in program details for individual students do not in any way affect degree requirements. Programs are groupings of courses in one or more disciplines.

Programs of Study are one of:

- **Specialist** Program: a sequence of between 10.0 and 14.0 credits in one or more disciplines (note that some interdisciplinary Specialist programs may require up to 16.0 credits). Specialist programs must include at least 4.0 credits from 300+ level courses, of which 1.0 credit must be at the 400 level.
- **Major** Program: a sequence of between 6.0 and 8.0 credits in one or more disciplines. Major programs must include at least 2.0 credits from 300+ level courses, of which one 0.5 credit must be at the 400 level.
- **Minor** Program: a sequence of 4.0 credits in one or more disciplines. Minor programs must include at least 1.0 credit at the 300+ level.

Please note that some courses included as program options may have prerequisites as requirements not listed in the program but which must be taken. Programs which list optional courses do not necessarily list their prerequisites. Students are responsible for fulfilling prerequisites; students enrolled in courses for which they do not have the published prerequisites may have their registration in those courses cancelled at any time without warning.

Students are required to:

- Enrol in at least one and no more than three programs (of which only two can be Majors or Specialists), in the session in which they pass the course that brings them to a total of 4.0 credits. See the Arts & Science Program Toolkit for details.
- Meet any enrolment requirements for a program as stated in the Calendar.

- In some cases, depending upon the programs in which students are enrolled, they may be eligible to request to receive the Honours Bachelor of Science (HBSc) or the Honours Bachelor of Arts (HBA) degree upon graduation instead of the Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS). Each program entry lists the type of degree it leads to. For example, the Computer Science Specialist listing is followed by "Computer Science program", the English Specialist listing is followed by "Arts program", and the Mathematics Major is followed by "Science program".
    - Effective September 2025, students can complete only one program type – Specialist, Major, or Minor – in any individual area, as referenced by the same final four-digit program code. For example, students can complete only one of a Specialist (ASSPE1013), Major (ASMAJ1013), or Minor (ASMIN1013) in Sociology.

For program combinations that include an Arts and/or Science area as well as a Computer Science area, the following applies:

- A student completing the Computer Science Major and a Major in a Science area has a choice of either the BCS or the HBSc.
- A student completing the Computer Science Major and a Major in an Arts area has the choice of either the BCS or the HBA.
- In combinations of the Computer Science Major and two Minors, the type of degree depends on the areas of the two Minors.
    - If a student is completing the Computer Science Major and the two Minors are in Science areas, the student has the choice of either the BCS or the HBSc.
    - If a student is completing the Computer Science Major and the two Minors are in Arts areas, the student has a choice of either BCS or the HBA.
    - If a student is completing the Computer Science Major, one Minor in a Science area, and a second Minor in an Arts area, the student is eligible to graduate only with the BCS.
- A student completing the Computer Science Specialist, the Data Science Specialist, or the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Specialist and an additional Major in a Science area has the choice of either the BCS or the HBSc.
- A student completing the Computer Science Specialist, the Data Science Specialist, or the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Specialist and an additional Major in an Arts area has the choice of either the BCS or the HBA.

- Students enrolled in either the Computer Science Major and an additional Major or the Computer Science Major and two Minors must ensure they have a minimum of 12.0 different credits between the programs. If a student is enrolled in two Majors and one Minor, credits from the Minor can be used to complete the degree requirement of 12.0 different credits across programs as long as:

    - the three programs have all been completed and confirmed as complete by the relevant academic units, and
    - all degree requirements are complete except the 12.0 different credits.

[content concerning Self-Designed Programs and Breadth Requirements excerpted]

++++++++++ (Calendar content ends)

Program combination examples for reference

Computer Science Specialist – BCS only
Data Science Specialist – BCS only
Computer Science Specialist and Drama Major – BCS or the HBA
Data Science Specialist and Actuarial Science Major – BCS or the HBSc

Computer Science Major and Drama Major – BCS or the HBA
Computer Science Major and Actuarial Science Major – BCS or the HBSc

Computer Science Major, Drama Minor, and Art History Minor – BCS or the HBA
Computer Science Major, Chemistry Minor, and Biology Minor – BCS or the HBSc
Computer Science Major, Drama Minor, and Chemistry Minor – BCS only

Appendix B.1: University of Toronto Mississauga Proposed Degree Level Expectations for the Bachelor of Computer Science

This document provides the general competencies that must be demonstrated by all students in all UTM degree programs; all of these Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations apply to all disciplines, and the committee has taken care to write them so that this is possible.

The term "goals" refers to an instructor-centred, general outcome for each of the fields of study.

The term "learning outcome" refers to a student-centred, specific, and measurable outcome for each of the fields of study.

The H.B.A., H.B.Sc., B.C.S., B.B.A., and B.Com. at the University of Toronto Mississauga are awarded to students who have demonstrated the following competencies:

1. Breadth & Depth of Knowledge

Goals:
Breadth of Knowledge: In the course of their studies, students will gain an awareness and appreciation of the variety of modes of thinking, methods of inquiry and analysis, and ways of understanding the world that underpin different intellectual fields. Students will engage in critical thinking and analytical skills – including with respect to equity, diversity, and inclusion – through courses within and beyond their core field(s) of study, across the humanities, the social and behavioural sciences, and the natural sciences.

Depth of Knowledge: Students will attain depth of knowledge in their core field(s) of study through a progression of introductory, core, and specialized courses.

Outcomes:

a. Identify and examine the central concepts, theoretical approaches and assumptions, intellectual history, and recent advances of the core field(s) of study.

b. Describe the major topics in the core field(s) of study and how they relate to other fields of study.

c. Apply critical and analytical skills within and beyond the core field(s) of study, including critical reflections on equity, diversity, and inclusion.

2.Knowledge of Methodologies

Goals: Students will have knowledge of and experience with different methodologies and approaches relevant to their core field(s) of study.

Outcomes:

Identify and describe methods of inquiry and/or creative activity in their core field(s) of study.

a. Select and implement appropriate methodologies to engage in inquiry in their core field(s) of study.

b. Evaluate the efficacy of different methodologies in addressing questions that arise in the core field(s) of study.

3.Application of Knowledge

Goals: Students will be able to frame relevant questions for further inquiry within or beyond the core field(s) of study. They will be able to identify and apply the appropriate tools with which they can address such questions effectively. This includes a knowledge of how historical and present discrimination (including, but not limited to, discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sexuality, gender, and ability) affect these questions, problems, and solutions.

Outcomes:

a. Gather, review, interpret, produce, present, and critically evaluate information, arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts, hypotheses, and/or creative options.

b. Make informed judgments in accordance with the major theories, concepts, methods, and intellectual and creative traditions of the core field(s) of study.

c. Apply relevant concepts, principles, and techniques within and beyond the core

field(s) of study.

d. Frame appropriate questions, solve problems, and propose and test solutions.

e. Formulate coherent lines of argument.

4.Communication Skills

Goals: Students will be able to effectively communicate and critically evaluate information, arguments, and analyses, using a range of modes of communication.

Outcomes:

a. Express information, arguments, and analyses accurately and with clarity, using inclusive language and a range of modes of communication.

b. Present work in a variety of formal and informal contexts in forms appropriate to the core field(s) of study.

c. Communicate effectively with a diverse range of audiences

d. Effectively convey an understanding of equity, diversity, and inclusivity principles by using respectful and inclusive language.

5. Awareness of Limits of Knowledge

Goals: Students will acknowledge and appreciate the limits of their own knowledge. They will also gain an awareness of the uncertainty, ambiguity, and limits of our collective knowledge and how these might influence analyses and interpretations.

Outcomes:

a. Identify the limits of their own knowledge and ability.

b. Recognize the uncertainty, power relations, ambiguity, and limits of knowledge and how this might influence analyses and interpretations.

6.Autonomy and Professional Capacity

Goals: Students will acquire the skills, knowledge, and critical problem solving they need to become informed, ethical, inclusive, independent, and creative thinkers and decision-makers; gain an awareness and appreciation that knowledge and its applications are influenced by and contribute to society as a

whole; and lay the foundation for learning as a life-long endeavour.

Outcomes:
a. Manage and critically reflect on their own learning within and beyond the core field(s) of study.
b. Uphold the ethical values of the University, including freedom of expression and scholarly inquiry, academic integrity, equity, diversity, and inclusion, sustainability, and global citizenship.
c. Exercise initiative, personal responsibility and accountability in personal and group problem solving and decision-making contexts.
d. Identify how their areas of study relate to their personal and professional development.

Appendix B.2: University of Toronto Mississauga: Degree Requirements: Bachelor of Computer Science

Degree Requirements, Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS), University of Toronto Mississauga

***Note:** the following degree requirements are aligned with the existing degree requirements for the Honours Bachelor of Science

Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)

To qualify for a Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) degree, a student must meet the following requirements:

Course Requirements

Complete at least 20.0 credits (i.e. with a grade of 50% or more or CR), meeting the following criteria:

- At least 13.0 credits at the 200+ level including a minimum of 6.0 credits at the 300/400 level (no more than 1.0 credit at the 300/400 level of transfer credit may be counted with the exception of courses taken through an official university exchange program).
- No more than 15.0 credits may have the same three-letter designator (e.g. "CSC," "MAT," etc.)

Distribution Requirements

- Complete at least 1.0 credit from each of the following divisions: Humanities, Sciences, Social Sciences. See Note 2 for details.

Grade Requirement

- Achieve a Cumulative GPA of 1.85 or more by the time of graduation.
- Students who meet all the requirements for the Bachelor of Computer Science except for the GPA requirement may elect to graduate with a 4-year Bachelor of Science degree provided they are in Good Standing (i.e., CGPA is 1.50 or more).

Program Requirements for a Bachelor of Computer Science Degree

- Computer Science Specialist or Information Security Specialist, OR
- Computer Science Major plus one Major in Science or Arts, OR
- Computer Science Major plus two Minors in Science or Arts

Considerations for combining programs:

- Students who combine programs must check the program requirements listed in this Calendar to ensure that their chosen programs have 12 distinct credits among them.
- Students who combine a Major in Computer Science and one Major or two Minors in a Science area may be eligible to receive either a BCS or HBSc. In such cases, students will be awarded a BCS unless notification is given to the Office of the Registrar.
- Students who combine a Major in Computer Science and one Major or two Minors in Arts may be eligible to receive either a BCS or HBA. In such cases, students will be awarded a BCS unless notification is given to the Office of the Registrar.
- Students who combine a Major in Computer Science with one Minor in a Science area and a second Minor in an Arts area are eligible to receive only the BCS.
- While planning for the upcoming year, students may apply for as many programs as they wish on ACORN. However, students must make timely decisions on their final selection as soon as possible. No more than three programs may be listed on ACORN under the “Currently Enrolled” section, with no more than two Specialists or two Majors. Students who wish to combine programs must adhere to one of the appropriate combinations listed above.
- For degree completion, it is not permissible to complete more than one program type (Specialist, Major, Minor) containing the same final four-digit program code. For example, students may not complete a Major in Computer Science (ERMAJ1688) and a Minor in Computer Science (ERMIN1688).

Notes:

1. Students may consult with an Academic Advisor in the Office of the Registrar regarding degree requirements. Consult the departmental program advisor regarding program requirements.

2. On distribution requirements:
    - Not all courses offered fulfill distribution requirements.

- Some courses have two assigned distributions. In these cases, the course will count towards one distribution requirement, but cannot fulfill two requirements simultaneously.
- Courses used to fulfill program requirements may also be used to fulfill distribution requirements.
- Students who are unsure about their distribution requirements or who need information on another U of T campus should contact the Office of the Registrar.
- Students wishing to use transfer credit(s) to fulfill distribution are responsible for confirming with the Office of the Registrar that the credit is acceptable for this purpose.

Appendix C.1: University of Toronto Scarborough Proposed Degree Level Expectations for the Bachelor of Computer Science

University of Toronto at Scarborough
Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations for the
Honors Bachelor of Arts, HBA
Honors Bachelor of Science, HBSc
Bachelor of Computer Science, BCS
Bachelor of Business Administration, BBA

This document sets out the goals and expectations that UTSC has for its undergraduate degrees and programs of study. The degree expectations are used to assess existing and new programs. They provide a standard by which students can evaluate the undergraduate education they receive at UTSC.

Depth and Breadth of Knowledge

Depth of Knowledge:
Programs of study will attain depth through a progression of introductory, core and specialized courses. Specialized courses will normally be at the C and D levels. This basic requirement is further refined in the three sections Knowledge of Methodologies, Application of Knowledge and Awareness of Limits of Knowledge.

Breadth of Knowledge:
In the course of their studies, students will gain an appreciation of the variety of modes of thinking, methods of inquiry and analysis, and ways of understanding the world that underpin different intellectual fields. Through courses within or outside of their programs of study, students will be exposed to an appropriate balance of: the arts, literature and history of human cultures, the social and behavioral sciences, the natural sciences, and quantitative reasoning.

Knowledge of Methodologies

Students will have a working knowledge of different methodologies and approaches relevant to their area of study. They will be able to evaluate the efficacy of different methodologies in addressing questions that arise in their area of study.

Application of Knowledge

Within their area of study students will be able to frame relevant questions for further inquiry. They will be familiar with or will be able to seek the tools with which they can address such questions effectively.

Awareness of Limits of Knowledge

Students will gain an understanding of the limits to their own knowledge. They will also gain an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity, and limits to our collective knowledge and how these might influence analyses and interpretations.

Communication Skills

Students will be able to communicate information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably, both orally and in writing. Students will learn to read and to listen critically.

Autonomy and Professional Capacity

In a broader context, the education students receive while pursuing their degrees has three further goals: to give students the skills and knowledge they need to become informed, independent and creative thinkers; to instill the awareness that knowledge and its applications are influenced by and contribute to society; and to lay the foundation for learning as a life-long endeavour.

Appendix C.2: University of Toronto Scarborough Degree Requirements: Bachelor of Computer Science

Proposed BCS Degree Requirements: Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)
***Note:** the following degree requirements are aligned with the existing degree requirements for the Honours Bachelor of Science

To qualify for the degree, students must:

1. Pass a minimum of 20.0 credits.
2. Of the 20.0 credits, at least 10.0 credits must be completed at UTSC.
3. Of the 20.0 credits, at least 6.0 credits must be at the C- and/or D-level, with at least 1.0 credit at the D-level.
4. Of the 20.0 credits, at least 0.5 credit must come from each of the following five breadth categories (breadth categories are identified in course descriptions):
    a. Arts, Literature & Language
    b. History, Philosophy & Cultural Studies
    c. Social & Behavioural Sciences
    d. Natural Sciences
    e. Quantitative Reasoning
5. Complete a program or programs as below (only programs offered by UTSC may be used to fulfill degree requirements, and students are permitted to graduate with a maximum of three certified programs):
    a. A Specialist program in Computer Science; or
    b. A Major program in Computer Science and at least one additional Major program; or
    c. A Major program in Computer Science and two Minor offerings.
6. Ensure the combinations of programs used to meet the degree requirement include a minimum of 12.0 distinct credits.
7. Earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 1.85. A student whose cumulative grade point average (CGPA) is at least 1.50, but less than 1.85, may request to graduate with a Bachelor of Science (BSc). Students combining a Major program in Arts with a Major program in Computer Science may request either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BSc).

Notes:

- Some combinations of programs are not possible due to the similarity in course requirements. Students with questions or concerns are advised to consult the Academic Advising & Career Centre to ensure they complete a minimum of 12.0 different credits. In the event that a student completes two certified Major programs and an additional certified Minor, the 12.0 distinct credits may be taken from any of these certified programs.
- The CGPA requirement to complete certain programs is higher than 1.85. For details see the individual program descriptions.
- Students may consult with an Academic Advisor in the Academic Advising & Career Centre regarding degree requirements. Consult the departmental program advisor regarding program requirements.

The type of degree students receive, whether HBA, BCS or HBSc, will be determined by the Specialist or Major program completed. For example:

- Students completing a Specialist BA program will receive an HBA degree;
- Students completing a Specialist BSc program will receive an HBSc degree;
- Students completing a Specialist program in Computer Science will receive a BCS degree;
- Students completing a Major BA program, in conjunction with any combination of two Minor programs, will receive an HBA degree;
- Students completing a Major BSc program, in conjunction with any combination of two Minor programs, will receive an HBSc degree;
- Students completing a Major program in Computer Science, in conjunction with any combination of two Minor programs will receive a BCS degree;
- Students completing Majors from two different degree areas (Arts, Science, Computer Science) may choose either the HBA, HBSC or BCS. Students may request a degree change on eService.

Programs to be Routed to the Proposed BCS

- SPECIALIST and SPECIALIST (CO-OPERATIVE) PROGRAM IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
    - Comprehensive Stream SCSPE0510 & Co-op SCSPE0510C
    - Information Systems Stream SCSPE0455 & Co-op SCSPE0455C
    - Software Engineering Stream SCSPE0795 & Co-op SCSPE0795C

    - Entrepreneurship Stream SCSPE0805 & Co-op SCSPE0805C
    - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Stream & Co-op (currently in development through a separate proposal and have yet to proceed through governance)
- MAJOR PROGRAM IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (SCIENCE) and MAJOR (CO-OPERATIVE) PROGRAM IN COMPUTER SCIENCE-- SCMAJ1688 and SCMAJ1688C

Appendix D: Comparator Degrees

Please list external comparators; provide a short summary of the degrees and highlight any differences between the degree programs and what is proposed.

Canadian

Institution and Unit	Degree Name and URL	Abbreviation	**Rankings for Computer Science in Canada** (Times Higher Education, 2025)
University of Waterloo School of Computer Science/ Faculty of Mathematics	Bachelor of Computer Science https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/future-undergraduate-students/undergraduate-programs-and-courses#bcs	BCS	#2 (43 in Global Rankings)
Queen's University School of Computing/Faculty of Arts & Science	Bachelor of Computing (Honours) https://www.queensu.ca/academic-calendar/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/computing/computer-science-specialization-computing-bc-honours/	BCH	#15 (301-400 in Global)

Carleton University School of Computer Science/ Faculty of Science	Bachelor of Computer Science https://carleton.ca/scs/future-students/undergraduate/	BCS	#15 (301-400 in Global)
Concordia University Dept Computer Science and Software Engineering, Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science	Bachelor of Computer Science https://www.concordia.ca/ginacody/computer-science-software-eng/programs/computer-science/bachelor/bcompsc-honours.html	BCompSc	# 12 (251-300 in Global)
Dalhousie University Faculty of Computer Science	Bachelor of Computer Science https://www.dal.ca/study/programs/undergraduate/computer-science-bcs.html	BCS	#25(401-500 in Global)
University of Guelph School of Computer Science, College of Engineering and Physical Sciences	Bachelor of Computing https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/degree-programs/bachelor-computing-bcomp/	B. Comp.	#15(301-400 in Global)
University of Windsor Faculty of Science	Bachelor of Computer Science https://www.uwindsor.ca/science/358/bachelor-computer-science-general	BCS	#15 (301-400 in Global)

University of Manitoba Department of Computer Science/ Faculty of Science	Bachelor of Computer Science https://umanitoba.ca/explore/programs-of-study/computer-science-bsc	BCSc	#20
University of British Columbia,	Bachelor of Computer Science degree (Integrated Computer Science) https://www.cs.ubc.ca/students/undergrad/degree-programs/bcs-program-second-degree	BCS	#4 (51 in Global)

International

Institution and Unit	Degree Name and URL	Abbreviation	QS World Rankings (2025)
National University of Singapore, Faculty of Computing	Bachelor of Computing in Computer Science https://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/programmes/ug/cs/	BComp (Sc)	#4
EFT Zürich, Division of Engineering Sciences	Bachelor Computer Science Bachelor Computational Science and Engineering https://ethz.ch/en/studies/bachelor/bachelors-degree-programmes/engineering-sciences/computer-science.html	BSc CSE	#10

EPFL – École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne	Bachelor in Computer Science https://www.epfl.ch/education/bachelor/programs/computer-science/		#151

Appendix E: Working Group Terms of Reference and Meeting Dates

Bachelor of Computer Science Proposal Tri-Campus Working Group

Terms of Reference

July 2024

In 2023, discussions began among the Faculty of Arts & Science, the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) regarding the development of a new University of Toronto degree, a Bachelor of Computer Science (name to be confirmed).
The Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs, provided a template for proposing this new degree. This working group will focus on completing a draft of this proposal in the 2024-25 academic year.

Key deliverables of the Working Group:

1. Draft degree proposal document with appendices from each division
2. Draft major modification proposals from each division to re-point pertinent programs to the new degree

Objectives

The Working Group will meet 5-6 times starting in July 2024 . The Working Group will complete the degree proposal document collaboratively by:

- Articulating the academic rationale for the development of this new degree, including need and demand as well as impact on other degrees or programs at U of T
- Determining the most appropriate degree name (e.g., Bachelor of Computer Science)
- Developing Degree requirements and incorporating into division-specific Degree-Level Expectations for inclusion in the proposal
- Determining which programs would point to the degree
- Coordinating on a tri-campus consultation strategy to inform the development of the proposals and inform stakeholders

- Reporting on consultations undertaken at division and unit level (including students, faculty, and staff) for each campus
- Determine how implementation of the new degree will work and which options will be available to continuing students

Meeting Schedule Summary

- 90 minutes
- 5-6 meetings Online

Bachelor of Computer Science Proposal
Tri-Campus Working Group
Schedule of Meetings

Working Group Meeting & Topic	**Date and Time**
Meeting # 1 Introductions and Scope of Group, Rationale	July 31, 2024, 9:00am - 10:30am
Meeting # 2 Consultations with Students and Employers, Degree Requirements	March 6, 2025, 3:00pm - 4:30pm
Meeting # 3 Degree Requirements, Abbreviations and Programs	May 26, 2025, 9:10am - 10:30am
Meeting #4 Reviewing Draft of Proposal & Fall Consultations	Sep. 15, 2025, 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Meeting #5 Reviewing Proposal Feedback & Consultations	Oct. 31, 2025, 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Meeting #6 Consultations and Major Modifications	Dec. 15, 2025, 1:00pm - 2:30pm