The University of Alabama Scholars Program in Computer Science

The Computer Science Department enrolls a number of talented and gifted students in its undergraduate program. These students are highly motivated, energetic students who are ideal recruits for graduate programs nationwide. The participation by Computer Science in the Scholars Program provides a much-needed graduate recruiting incentive for our department.

The graduate catalog provides a general description of the Scholars Program. The following implementation scenario is consistent with the catalog's *Phase II admission into the program.* Students are normally admitted to the Scholars Program at the end of their junior year. To be considered for admission, students must:

- Meet the minimum GPA requirement for the University Scholars Program (currently a 3.3 GPA);
- Have completed three-quarters of the required hours in the major and minor for the Computer Science degree;
- Have completed all required 300-level Computer Science (325, 357) and Electrical & Computer Engineering courses (380, 383).
- Have submitted an application for admission to the Graduate School.

Program Logistics

- A set of senior-level courses in Computer Science will be cross-listed with a 500-level equivalent. These courses include: CS 403, 415, 426, 434, 435, 438, 457, 470, and 491.
- During the student's senior year, he/she takes four senior-level computer science courses at the 500-level (instead of the 400-level). **These four courses would be dual-counted towards both a B.S. and M.S. degree.**
- During the student's fifth year, he/she would complete either:
  - An additional 12 hours of coursework plus a M.S. thesis, *or*
  - An additional 18 hours of graduate coursework.
- Participants will usually be awarded a graduate assistantship during their fifth year of studies.

Sample Course Schedule

Third Year (Junior Year)					
Fall Semester	CS 403 – Programming Languages	3	Spring Semester	CS 440 – Social & Ethical Issues	3
	GES 255 or ST 410 – Statistics I	3		GES 257 or ST 411 – Statistics II	3
	ECE 484 – Computer architecture	4		MATH 300 – Numerical Analysis	3
	MATH 237 – Matrix theory	3		HU or FA or L elective	3
	HU or FA or L elective	3		Natural Science elective	4
Fourth Year (Senior Year)					
Fall Semester	**CS 515 – Software Engineering**	3	Spring Semester	**CS 526 – Operating Systems**	3
	CS 570 - Algorithms	3		**CS 534 – Compiler Construction**	3
	CS 4XX elective	3		CS 4XX elective	3
	Core Curriculum classes	6		Core Curriculum classes	6
Fifth Year (Graduate Year)					
Fall Semester	CS 600 – Grad Software Engineering	3	Spring Semester	CS 606 – Grad Operating Systems	3
	CS 601 – Grad Algorithms	3		CS 603 or CS 609 or CS 613	3
	CS graduate course or thesis hours	3		CS graduate course or thesis hours	3

Comments on this Schedule:

1. Since eight of our senior-level courses will be cross-listed at the 400 and 500-level, students are not required to take the four specific 500-level courses identified above. They may instead take other cross-listed courses as desired.
2. At the end of their senior year, students will have completed 12 hours of graduate credit (4 three-hour 500-level courses).
3. At the end of their fifth year, students will have 30 hours of graduate credit and will have completed all requirements for a Master's degree in Computer Science.

For more information, interested students should contact either Dr. Richard Borie (borie@cs.ua.edu, 348-1668) or Dr. David Cordes (cordes@cs.ua.edu, 348-6363).