INFORMATION SECURITY (HBSc)

Department of Mathematical & Computational Sciences

Information Security is an interdisciplinary blend of Computer Science and Mathematics. Students will learn about cryptography, network security and digital forensics. The Information Security program provides you with tools for the modern technology driven world.

Our award winning faculty bring knowledge and experience from a variety of backgrounds. Your time in this program will be enriched with Research Opportunity Courses and with small group project and thesis courses with the faculty.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we’ve pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Program of Study (POSt)

- Specialist Program ERSPE1038 Information Security (Science)

Check out...

Don't let those black hats crack your systems! Take CSC347H5 and learn how to identify and avoid common software development flaws that leave software vulnerable. Take CSC427H5 to learn about network attacks and defenses, operating system and application vulnerabilities, viruses, spyware, social engineering attacks, privacy, and digital rights management.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for graduates: Information Security Analyst; Computer Systems Specialist; CSIS Communication Analyst; CSIS intelligence officer; Strategic planner; Network architect; Computer network specialist; Computer programmer; Operations research analyst; Database developer.

Workplaces: Computer/telecommunication companies; Government; Banks; Insurance; Engineering firms.
INFORMATION SECURITY
SPECIALIST Program Plan

**1ST YEAR**
- Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
- Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a uTWN course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RAGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2ND YEAR**
- Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses CSC299Y, CSC399Y and CSC499Y. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RAGASC Program for Accessing Research Training (PART) to enhance your research skills.
- Consider a practical work-based experience through Unit's Professional Experience Year-Co-op — Canada's largest undergraduate paid internship program that offers 12- to 16-month work placements. Speak to the Academic Advisor & Undergraduate Program Administrator (CSC).

**3RD YEAR**
- Enrol in courses CSC343H5, 347H5, 363H5, 369H5, 373H5, MAT301H5 and 302H5.
- Throughout your undergraduate degree:
  - use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
  - see the Office of the Registrar and the Academic Advisor & Undergraduate Program Administrator (CSC) for assistance.
- Use the Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLIN) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.
- Work on-campus through the Work-Study program. View position descriptions on the CLIN.

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
- Enrol in CSC358H5/458H5 and two of (CSC422H5, 423H5, 427H5, 490H5).
- What is Experiential Education? It means learn by doing! Speak to the Academic Advisor & Undergraduate Program Administrator (CSC) about a workshop-based course such as CSC490H5 (Capstone Design). Log on to ACORN and request graduation.
- Conduct a research project under the supervision of a faculty member through CSC492H5 and CSC493H5. Speak to the Academic Advisor & Undergraduate Program Administrator (CSC) for advice and details.

**PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS**
- Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.
- Attend the Get Hired Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.
- Attend the Experiential Education Fair.

**BUILD SKILLS**
- Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Mathematical and Computational Sciences Society (MCSS). Follow them on Facebook, Twitter or blogs.
- Do you have a professor you want to connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don’t be shy! Learn Tips on How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Unit (EEU).

**BUILD A NETWORK**
- Engage with the many programs offered by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the Canada Eh? day trips or English Language Conversation Circles to deepen your global mindset.
- First-year international students can also take advantage of THRIVE, a one-day conference dedicated to helping you start your UTM journey successfully.
- Participate in International Education Week and engage in programs like Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) to build on your leadership and communication skills in global citizenship.
- Learn about and prepare for a future UTM Abroad Experience through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own!

**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**
- Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC. Also attend the Computer Science program selection & PEY co-op application Town Hall offered by the Department.
- Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.
- Explore careers through the CC’s Job Shadow Program.

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE**
- Consider further education! Attend the CC’s Graduate & Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.
- Consider further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, GMAT) and research funding options (OGS, NSERC).

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

**HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN**
Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.
Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

**3RD YEAR**
Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter or blogs).
- Attend the UofT Electrical & Computer Engineering department’s Distinguished Lectures Series.
- Expanding your intercultural awareness and developing intercultural skills will help you in your academics, personal growth and are highly sought out by employers.
- Earn credits overseas! Apply to study for a summer term, or year at one of 170+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange, funding and travel safety. Attend Global Learning Week to learn about the various opportunities available to you!
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**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**
- Expand your research experience and opportunities.
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INFORMATION SECURITY

Skills developed in Information Security

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

- **Research**: analyze and evaluate information; develop innovative systems; and develop ideas for presentation at a conference or in a journal.
- **Technical**: write, debug, and test programs and research, design and develop computer systems (e.g., new computer languages, simulations, system analysis, etc.).
- **Problem-solving**: conceptualize models; formulate, model and solve problems from diverse areas; and collect, organize, analyze, and interpret results.
- **Communication**: articulate, explain, and teach technical information to others, as well as question and probe to diagnose computer problems.
- **Organizational**: manage time effectively and organize and maintain stored data.

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Mathematical and Computational Sciences Society (MCSS)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit the Student Groups and Societies Directory or the MCS Student organizations.

FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The Grade 12 prerequisites for this program are Advanced Functions and Calculus. The approximate average required for admission is low to mid 80s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

NOTE: During the application process, applicants will select the Computer Science, Mathematics & Statistics admissions category but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

The first two years of the program are an introduction to broadly applicable tools and ideas. You’ll learn computing languages including, Python (CSC108H5) and Java (CSC207H5), as well as mathematical techniques (CSC236H5) and data structures (CSC148H5 and CSC263H5).

Our computing facilities are excellent. We have over 400 Linux PCs, Windows PCs and Apple Macs. Course offerings are intended to serve a wide variety of student interests ranging from information processing to applying computers to other fields. Our faculty enjoy a strong world-wide reputation in varied fields of research including: human-computer interaction, computer vision, machine learning, robotics and computing education.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400
www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students