

DEGREE ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Degree enhancements allow students to find areas of interest outside their major, get involved in clubs or organizations, develop personally or professionally, pursue passion projects, participate in research, and apply classroom knowledge.

Minors: Students are encouraged to research and pursue [minors](#). Some popular minors that CS students have pursued are Mathematics, Economics, Management, Psychology, Electrical and Computing Engineering, Language (i.e. Spanish), Statistics, Physics, Psychology, and Philosophy to name a few. **NOTE:** This is not a comprehensive list, rather a starting point to investigating this degree enhancement.

Available Opportunities:

- Minor(s)
- Additional Major(s)
- Certificate(s)
- EPICS
- Study Abroad
- Service Learning
- Competitive Programming

Pursuing an [additional program of study](#) allows students to pursue complimentary as well as divergent areas of interest. This will offer more in depth study than what a minor tends to offer. They generally will require students to take more courses to complete alongside their primary major. The feasibility of an additional major depends on the major and the college in which the major resides. Of particular interest to College of Science students is the [Degree+](#) program in the College of Liberal Arts. A Degree+ program is conferred when a student completes only the major coursework for their selected degree program. This program makes it more feasible for students to complete multiple degree programs within four years.

[Certificates](#) are similar to minors. They can be a good way to quantify specific skills or training you have vs. a minor, which is more discipline-specific content knowledge.

Study Abroad

The College of Science highly supports students who want to study abroad. No matter the duration, is an once-in-a-lifetime experience which gives students international experience, intercultural skills, experiential learning, and more. Study Abroad programs can range in length from a week, for example going on a Spring Break study abroad, all the way to a full academic year. Depending on the type and duration of the program, going on study abroad can also help complete college- and department-level requirements through the experiential learning contract process.

Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS)

EPICS is a course-based program where teams of undergraduate students design, build, and deploy real-world systems and solutions to solve engineering-based problems for local community service and education organizations. Participating in EPICS gives students teaming and leadership experience, the opportunity to give back to the local community, and the chance to apply their technical knowledge.

Service Learning

The Department of Computer Science offers the opportunity for students to connect with and share their passion for Computer Science with students in our K-12 Outreach Program by taking CS 39000: Service Learning Outreach. Students go into local schools to teach kids and work to find better ways to share knowledge and excitement of Computer Science with a larger audience around the state.

Competitive Programming

Four competitive programming course opportunities are available for students to compete or brush up on their technical programming skills. Each of the courses are problem-driven. Most lectures will consist of studying a set of related programming problems, explaining the common techniques and ideas to solve them, often with code provided, and occasionally live coding demonstrations in lectures. They will also have in-class coding tests/contexts, which will be beneficial for preparing for technical interviews or those interested in joining Purdue's Competitive Programming Team.