



Computer Science

Full details about the course are available from

<http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/>

and from

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/computer-science

Brief details of the course

Computer Science is offered as a three-year course leading to a BA(Hons) degree, with the option of continuing for a fourth year to attain the MSci.

There are three variants available for the first year of the course

- a combination of Computer Science (75%), and Mathematics (25%) from the Natural Sciences Tripos.
- a combination of Computer Science (50%), Mathematics (25%) from the Natural Sciences Tripos and *either* a Natural Science subject (25%) *or* a psychology paper from the Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Tripos.
- a combination of Computer Science (50%) with half of the first-year papers from the Mathematics course (50%).

After the first year the course is entirely Computer Science at increasing levels of specialisation.

Teaching Arrangements

The Director Of Studies is Dr Richard Watts, founder of Kynesim – <http://www.kynesim.co.uk/> - a local computer consultancy firm. His research interests include compilers, HCI, operating systems and programming language design.

Subject requirements

Mathematics A level is essential, and Further Mathematics is highly desirable. A further science subject is also useful, and if you are planning on offering a Natural Science subject in your first year, a further science is essential. Computer Science A level is not required.

For those taking other post-16 qualifications we expect a combination of subjects comparable to those given for A-levels.

Those applying to read Computer Science with Mathematics are required to have A-Level Further Mathematics or IB Higher Level Physics. You will also be expected to achieve high grades in two STEP Mathematics papers. Please see www.maths.cam.ac.uk/undergrad/admissions/step/

Qualities we are looking for

We are looking for individuals who have a clear grasp of mathematics and can apply it to the sort of tasks that are found in Computer Science. It is very unlikely you will reach this level unless you have taken both Mathematics and Further Mathematics at A-level or equivalent.

Some previous experience of computing would be an advantage, but none is required. The possession of analytical skills and the ability to evaluate critically material that you read are both vital.

Admissions Assessment

Arrangements for the Computer Science admissions assessment have not yet been confirmed for 2019 entry. Information will be added here as soon as it is available so please check back for updates.

Interviews

You can expect to have one or two technical interviews of up to about 30 minutes, together with a shorter general interview.

In the technical interviews you will be expected to tackle questions which relate to the sort of mathematics that is the basis of computing, and to show a critical appreciation of technology.

If you have applied for the 50% or with Mathematics options, the second technical interview will typically discuss applied mathematics topics relating to the remaining subjects you will be studying.

Candidates will also have a general interview with an Admissions Tutor. This is designed to learn about the candidate's interests and activities outside Computer Science, his/her motivation in choosing to study Computer Science at Cambridge, and the candidate's maturity of approach towards academic work.

View on gap years

Whilst there are no objections to delayed entry it is important to remember that mathematical skills can quickly dwindle if not used. You should therefore select activities that will help to maintain your competence and also gain experience in your chosen subject.

Finding out more and Open Days

The Computer Laboratory will be participating in the Cambridge Open Days on 5 and 6 July 2018. See the insert in our prospectus about this and other open days at Selwyn. Full details are also available on our website.