The Computer Science curriculum provides both a broad and deep knowledge of the theory, design, and application of computer systems, with an emphasis on software systems. Because computing is ubiquitous, application areas involve virtually any field imaginable - from developing gene sequencing algorithms via techniques in computational biology, to designing user interfaces for mobile applications; from designing methods for high frequency trading, to creating computer generated graphics and special effects in the gaming industry; and from creating embedded real time systems to be deployed in medical devices, to analyzing social data from internet communication patterns. During the first two years the curriculum provides a strong foundation in mathematics, science, and computation. Advanced coursework both in more technical core areas and in areas of the student’s choosing follows in the second two years. Graduates regularly go on to graduate study or leading positions in industry.

Both a combined B.S.-M.S. degree program and a B.S-M.C.S. degree program are available. The admission and course requirements are described on the Computer Science website (https://cs.illinois.edu/academics/graduate/fifth-year-masters-programs/).