

Combined Computer Information Systems Degree Podcast

Hello, my name is Kelsey and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Computer Information Systems combined degree programs. A combined degree program allows students to complete their bachelor's and master's degree in as few as 5 years, thus saving both time and money compared to completing both degrees separately. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish these programs.

Let's start by explaining to you what these program options entail. GVSU undergraduate students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Information Systems, or Computer Engineering may pursue a Master of Science in Computer Information Systems at Grand Valley through the Computer Information Systems combined degree program. In the combined degree program, students will have the opportunity to enhance their skillset and refine their career goals. While a traditional student would require 6 or more years to complete both a Bachelor's and Master's degree, students in Grand Valley's Computer Information Systems combined degree programs are able to complete both degrees in as few as 5 years.

Jobs in the Computer Information Systems profession are expected to increase 17% by 2024.

Interested GVSU students will apply directly to the School of Computing and Information Systems for the combined degree program during their second academic year. Application requirements for the Computer Information Systems combined degree program include a GPA of 3.25 or greater, admission to one of the three applicable undergraduate programs, 60 hours of academic credit that are completed or in progress, two letters of recommendation, academic transcripts, and a letter of intent. If English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

More details as well as the online application can be found on the combined degree programs website, www.gvsu.edu/gs/combineddegreeprograms.

Some great news about GVSU's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

All university requirements, including general education courses, must be completed before the final graduate year of the Computer Information Systems combined degree program. In the final undergraduate year at GVSU, students will typically take 12 credit hours of graduate-level courses. If any courses are dual-listed, students in the combined degree program must complete all assignments expected of graduate students and will be evaluated as graduate students. Students will be considered a graduate student after either a Bachelor's degree is awarded or 120

credit hours are completed. For a complete listing of all courses as well as sample curriculum sequences, please visit www.gvsu.edu/grad/cis.

This combined degree program is an opportunity for Grand Valley students to respond to emerging job markets and increase their marketability by combining two degrees that meet their personal, academic, and career goals. Students can save both time and money by completing two degrees in as few as 5 years. The Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, Information Systems, and Computer Engineering programs house outstanding faculty who integrate their teaching and research, and regularly publish both nationally and internationally. The programs utilize state-of-the-art facilities including a nationally recognized networking and data communication teaching laboratory, a Linux laboratory, an architecture laboratory, and student research project rooms.

That is just a snapshot of the Computer Information Systems combined degree program at Grand Valley State University. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Robert Adams, at adamsr@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.