



INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Online Programs & Scholarships for Teachers at the University of Maine

- *Are you or your school facing long-term challenges in incorporating computer programming, digital database projects, and computer science topics into classrooms across the curriculum in grades 8-12?*
- *Are you a teacher that would like to learn computer coding and information system design but never had the opportunity?*
- *Would you like to prepare yourself with foundation knowledge and skills in computer programming, digital data handling and computer science topics that will allow you to excel in addressing current and future computer science curriculum and community challenges?*

If you answered **yes** to any of these questions, please read further.

If your interest is primarily at the 8-12 grade levels OR you want to teach courses dedicated to computer programming anywhere within the K-12 grade levels, consider pursuit of any of the following:

- **Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIS)**
See online.umaine.edu/grad/master-of-science-in-information-systems
- **Graduate Certificate in Information Systems**
See online.umaine.edu/graduate-certificates/information-systems
- **Master of Science in Spatial Informatics (MSSI)**
See online.umaine.edu/spatialinformatics/
- **Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems**
See online.umaine.edu/graduate-certificates/geographic-information-systems/

Potential additional graduate programs that may be operational by Fall 2020 and will qualify for the grants if available, include the **Master of Science in Data Science**, **Graduate Certificate in Data Science**, and **Graduate Certificate in Computing for Educators**. Whether or not these additional graduate programs are approved for the Fall, all of them as planned incorporate many overlapping courses required by the existing programs and, if courses are appropriately chosen, may be transferred to the new graduate programs in the future if and when approved.

Core Courses: The core courses in the listed online programs are offered by professors in the School of Computing and Information Science. The programs are **designed to accommodate students from wide-ranging backgrounds**. The core courses focus on content knowledge in coding, computer science, and data handling to enable lifelong learning on computing topics. The profiles of numerous teachers and other Maine working professionals already participating are posted at <https://umaine.edu/scis/graduate-students/>.

Elective Courses: To round out either of the full MS degrees, the additional five courses may be taken in other domains to meet the individual needs of each student. By example, consult the long list of preapproved electives in the [MSIS program](#).

HIGHLIGHTS AND CHARACTERISTICS

- Complete a 100% online, all-coursework, 30-credit hours MSIS or MSSI graduate degree (10 courses) or a 15-credit hours Information Systems or GIS graduate certificate (5 courses).
NOTE: Courses offered online are labeled with * at <https://umaine.edu/msis/curriculum-and-degree-requirements/> and all at <https://spatial.umaine.edu/courses/> are offered online and on-campus
- No previous computing background is required. However, those with substantial computing backgrounds have greater flexibility in selecting courses to include within their graduate programs.
- Join a cohort of graduate students with wide ranging undergraduate degree backgrounds. Among bachelor's degrees possessed by recent graduates and current students include Accounting, Biology, Business Administration, Ecology, Economics, Education, Engineering, English, Environmental Science, Journalism, Library Science, Music, Sociology, and more.
- Pursue rigorous courses in information systems that address real world problems germane to your students and community.
- Learn to code as well as design and implement complex information systems and data acquisition systems.
- Acquire foundational knowledge that will prepare you well for lifelong learning on computing topics.
- Take the exact same courses as those taken by on-campus graduate students, viewing lectures and completing assignments each week on your own schedule.
- Interact with full-time internationally eminent computing professors who teach the same grad courses on-campus.
- Acquire techniques, ideas, and inspiration to apply immediately on the job.
- Find great new job opportunities within both education and the private business sector.
- Enjoy highly affordable tuition compared to similar high-quality online MSIS graduate programs.
- Want to test the water? To facilitate efficient processing for Maine residents in a time of societal stress, ***GRE scores and letters of reference currently are NOT required*** in applying for any of the listed programs. Try a course to convince yourself that you have what it takes.

Jump-start tuition scholarships are available for several newly admitted graduate students living in Maine for one course each in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. Apply by submitting a graduate application. Graduate admission decisions and scholarship awards (about \$1,375 per 3-credit course) are being made on a rolling basis. To ensure skin in the game, tuition scholarship recipients or their employers may be expected to pay the graduate application fee (\$50) and any fees affiliated with the course. For the jump-start scholarships, some deference will be given to those students pursuing one of the MS degrees. However, admitted students may acquire one or more Graduate Certificates as steps along the way in pursuing their full graduate degree.

To learn more, contact **UMaineOnline Advisor** at 207.581.5858 or umaineonline@maine.edu or contact Amanda Cupps directly at amanda.cupps@maine.edu or 207.581.3452.

For program-specific questions, contact the **Program Coordinator**, Professor Harlan Onsrud at harlan.onsrud@maine.edu

Apply now at umaine.edu/graduate/apply

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