CIST – Computer Information Systems Technology

Technology

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2027
Program Outline Review Date: 2032-03-01

Program Area: Information Technology

Description:

The goal of this program is to prepare students for a career as a computer systems technologist. Computer systems technologists solve computer-related issues for businesses, government agencies, utilities, law enforcement agencies, health services providers, educational institutions and more. Graduates from this program can choose to specialize in areas including programming, software design, data communications, security and web design.

Program Information:

This 2-year full-time program provides the knowledge, skills, and training required to prepare students for a career as a Computer Systems Technologist.

Credentials Granted:

Computer Information Systems Technology Diploma

Delivery Methods: Blended (Hybrid)

Credits: 60

Admission Requirements:

Recommended Admission Requirements:

Basic computer literacy skills are expected, including Windows operating system and file management skills, the ability to use word processing software, and the ability to communicate, research, exchange and download files using web browsing and email software.

Program Completion Requirements:

None

Program Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to

- design, develop, test, and optimize software applications for desktop, web, and mobile platforms using industry-standard programming languages, frameworks, and development tools;
- apply computer networking principles and technologies to install, configure, manage, and troubleshoot network infrastructure, services, and communication systems;
- administer and support enterprise computing environments by configuring hardware, operating systems, servers, directory services, and network resources;
- implement cybersecurity best practices to protect systems, applications, and networks through authentication, access control, cryptography, threat mitigation, and security management;
- collaborate effectively in diverse technical teams using professional project management methodologies, development frameworks, and communication tools to deliver software and IT solutions; and
- demonstrate adaptability and lifelong learning by independently researching, evaluating, and applying emerging software, hardware, and information technology trends and tools.

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Program Transfer Credit:

For information about block transfer agreements between programs in British Columbia, Alberta, and elsewhere, please visit http://www.cotr.bc.ca/transfer.

To minimize transfer issues, check with an academic advisor at the institution that will receive the transfer credits.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/ and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Program Changes:

Information contained in this program outline is correct at the time of publication. Courses and course content may be revised from time to time based on changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The timetable may also be revised.

Course Descriptions: Refer to Course Outlines – https://outlines.cotr.bc.ca/course/