1. Do prerequisites need to be taken from ASU?

Prerequisites do not need to be taken from ASU. We understand that many applicants have IT experience. To reduce the barriers to entry, ASU is providing applicants an option to prove their computer fundamental understanding through a computer science proficiency test.

2. Can work experience help bypass prerequisite areas?

No. Applicants can demonstrate their proficiency of specific topics through a standardized computer science test. Understanding of the following topics can also be demonstrated by completion of the following undergraduate coursework.

- Computer Organization and Assembly Language Programming
- Data Structures and Algorithms
- Operating Systems
- Principles of Programming Languages
- Introduction to Theoretical Computer Science
- Introduction to Software Engineering

3. Is there any sort of credit offered for work experience in IT?

No, we do not offer academic credit for work experience in the field.

4. What is the total cost of the degree program?

The total cost of the degree program is $15,000, or $1,500 per 3-credit course. There are no textbooks required for the courses, and no additional fees. You will only be billed for the courses you are enrolled in.

5. Do I have to pay for the entire degree upfront?

You only have to pay for the courses you are enrolled in. ASU also offers a payment plan, which provides you with the option to budget the payment of certain eligible university charges over several months within the semester.

https://students.asu.edu/paymentplan.
6. Can completing Coursera coursework satisfy prerequisites?

Completing Coursera courses alone does not waive a prerequisite, but completing the course and working through the material can be an excellent way to prepare for the computer proficiency test, which determines if there are topics a student is deficient in.

7. Are Coursera specializations accepted in application?

Completion of Open Courses and/or Specializations on the Coursera platform by itself will not earn graduate credits from the university toward the degree. Only credit-bearing coursework will be considered in the application.

8. How can I check the status of my application?

Log into my.asu.edu with your ASURITE id and review the section called ‘My Application Status’. This section will display pending checklist items or an application decision. If you have questions on pending items, please contact us at 844-353-7953 or email Anysia.Navarro@asu.edu.

9. Are letters of recommendation required for admission?

No, letters of recommendation are optional. In the application, please enter your own name in the letters of recommendation to be able to continue with the application.

10. What is a statement of purpose?

The statement of purpose should include your reasons for undertaking graduate work and an explanation of your academic interests, including their relation to your professional goals. There is no specific length for a statement of purpose.

11. What are the math prerequisites?

You must take three (3) semesters or 12 credit hours of calculus, including multivariate calculus. To determine what completed Math coursework might transfer, go to asu.edu/transfercreditguide.com.

Note that at this time, you are not able to test out of these below prerequisites. You must have college credit on your transcripts for math before you apply.

Calculus 1:
Limits and continuity, differential calculus of functions of one variable, introduction to integration.

Calculus 2:
Methods of integration, applications of calculus, elements of analytic geometry, improper integrals, Taylor series.

Calculus 3:
Vector-valued functions of several variables, partial derivatives, multiple integration.
**12. Can I select a concentration within my MCS degree?**

The MCS degree does not currently provide concentrations online. As part of the program offering, you can select courses in an area of interest like Big Data, AI, Cybersecurity, etc.

**13. How much time can I expect to spend per week on class projects and assignments?**

Arizona State University recommends 3 hours of study for every hour spent in class.

Full-time students enrolled in 9 credit hours per semester will spend an average of 25-27 hours of study time each week. Part-time students enrolled in 6 credit hours per semester will spend an average of 20 hours of study time.

Full time students can complete the program within 1.5 years. Part time students can expect to take one course per session with an average completion of 2.5 years (assuming students take the summer sessions off).

**14. It says the program is 18-36 months Can it be completed earlier than that?**

The completion time is based on the number of courses you enroll per semester. You must complete 30 credit hours to get your masters degree.

**15. What is the academic calendar in which courses are offered?**

The ASU academic calendar is displayed at [https://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar](https://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar). The MCS program has five sessions a year (Fall A, Fall B, Spring A, Spring B, Summer), with each session being 7.5 weeks.

**16. How do I get billed and when I do pay?**

Your bill will display in the my.asu.edu portal. The payment deadlines for each session are also displayed in the individual sessions at [https://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar](https://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar).

**17. Can I transfer from online to on-campus while pursuing my Master of Computer Science degree?**

You can transfer up to 12 credits between programs from online program to the same on-campus program, as long as your grades are “B” or better. You will need to submit new application to transfer your credits.
18. Does my degree say online Master of Computer Science?

Your diploma and transcript will not indicate that the degree was completed online. It will appear identically to the diploma and transcript of a student who completes his or her studies on-campus. The on-ground and online programs have the same courses, same syllabi taught by the same faculty. The degree certificate will say Master of Computer Science.

19. How do ASU students access the alumni network?

More information on the ASU alumni network is available at https://alumni.asu.edu/.

20. Do the MCS courses need to be taken in a specific order?

No. You can take courses in any order. However, you must take one Applications, one Systems, and one Foundations course as part of the graduation requirements, and pick seven courses from anywhere.

International Students

21. Am I able to get an internship by participating in this program?

Students will need pre-existing work authorization in order to hold an internship. Pre-existing work authorization is based on certain visa categories. See more here: https://asuonline.asu.edu/sites/default/files/immigration_mcs.pdf

22. How do you evaluate international transcripts for minimum GPA?

We have a conversion rubric that we use depending on the country of origin for the transcript.

23. Can English proficiency be waived off for people with work experience in US?

We require all international applicants from a country whose native language is not English or applicants whose undergraduate degree was not at a U.S institution to provide the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) scores. The MCS program requires a minimum score of 575 (paper-based) or 90 (internet-based) on the TOEFL exam, or a 7 for IELTS.

English proficiency waivers are offered for degrees from certain countries.

English proficiency will also be waived if you have completed at least 12 credit hours of graduate course work with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale or higher (all credits must be earned in the U.S. and official transcripts must be mailed to ASU).

If you need to take an English proficiency test for your application but are unable to take the TOEFL or IELTS, please contact us at 844-353-7953 or email Anysia.Navarro@asu.edu for options.
24. How do I send my English proficiency scores to ASU?

TOEFL scores must be sent from ETS. The ASU institution code is 4007. If department code is required, use 99 for TOEFL.

IELTS scores must be sent from ielts.org. There is no institution code required.

25. Is there a way for international students to pay their tuition by wire transfers if they are unable to pay by a credit card?

ASU has partnered with Flywire to provide a payment option for students to send international payments by wire transfer. See the International Wire Transfer Payments section on this page: [https://students.asu.edu/paymentoptions](https://students.asu.edu/paymentoptions)

26. Are there career services available for international students?

Yes. All students in the MCS program will have access to the [ASU Online Student Support & Services](https://eoss.asu.edu/cs/handshake), as well as the [ASU Engineering Career Center](https://international.asu.edu/undergrad). Handshake is another option available for students looking to connect with potential employers.

27. Is a three-year undergraduate degree eligible for admission to MCS?

A student must have the equivalent of a four-year bachelor's degree to be eligible to apply for a graduate program. Students who have a three-year bachelor’s degree can take one year of a master’s degree program in their home country to be equivalent to a four-year bachelor’s degree.

28. Are there financial aid options and scholarships available for the program?

There are limited scholarships available for this program. Learn more here: [https://scholarships.asu.edu/](https://scholarships.asu.edu/). Financial aid options are also available. Learn more here: [https://students.asu.edu/financialaid/types](https://students.asu.edu/financialaid/types).

29. How can I get transcripts from my undergraduate institution, if my degree was achieved particularly in India or China?

1. For countries where only one original document is issued (such as India), the student can:
   a. For students in AZ, they can bring their original doc to the admissions counter in SSV M-F (M 8 am-4 pm, T-F 8 am-5 pm) on Tempe campus and we will view the document to determine authenticity, make a copy of the original and provide the original back to the student.
   b. For students in India, they can mail Poonam, our admissions team member in India, who can review the doc and make a copy and stamp as official. [https://international.asu.edu/undergrad](https://international.asu.edu/undergrad)

Mumbai Bandra Kurla Complex - Kalina
Level 2 Raheja Centre Point 294 CST Road Near Mumbai University, Off Bandra-Kurla Complex,
Mumbai, 400 098
T: +91-9999-4210 89
Email: [ASUPoonamVenkatesh@asu.edu](mailto:ASUPoonamVenkatesh@asu.edu)
ATTN: Poonam Venkatesh
2. **Provide an attestation from the issuing institution or Ministry of Education.**
   Usually this is in the form of a copy of the transcript with a stamp indicating it is an attested true copy of the original. The stamp would be the seal of the office doing the attestation along with the signature of the authorizing authority. You can submit this to us once received. It does not need to come directly from the entity doing the attestation.

   NOTE: We don’t accept a notarized copy.

3. **Credentials from India and China can be sent to ASU electronically through our parchment feed.**
   Applicants from Chinese institutions can request and submit official transcripts directly through CHESICC. Requests are processed by CHESICC and will be sent electronically to Arizona State University admissions office. You **will not** need to submit a paper copy of your transcript. [Go here](#) to get started.

   Applicants from institutions in India can request and submit official transcripts directly through TrueCopy Credentials. Requests are processed by Truecopy Credentials and will be sent electronically to the Arizona State University admissions office. You **will not** need to submit a paper copy of your transcript. [Go here](#) to get started. Please note that TrueCopy can take between 2-8 weeks to send transcripts.