

At a Glance: Reasons to Study in CIMS

- Bachelors Degrees in:
 - Mathematics
 - Computer Science
 - Information Technology
- Campus Life:
 - New dorms
 - 15 minutes from Atlanta
- New Math/Engineering Dual Degree with Georgia Tech!
- WebBSIT program
- Certificate Program in CNET
- Fayette Location Now

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CNET joins CIMS

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About CIMS

CNET Comes to CIMS

- a 54-hour certificate funded by the Hope Grant!

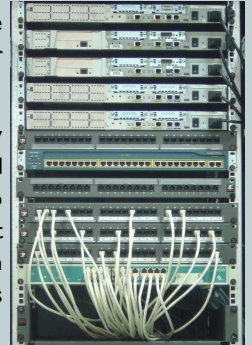
Are you interested in studying technology but don't have the funds to go to school? Have you ever wanted to build and secure your own networks? If so, a certificate in Computer Networking (CNET) will likely interest to you!

CNET is a program of study designed to expose students to a solid technology curriculum as well as to provide an environment where students can understand and experiment with the latest networking hardware. Graduates gain the necessary skills to obtain entry-level I.T. positions. In addition, because the program contains a significant amount of general education (such as English and Mathematics), the program serves as an excellent entry point for those who wish to transfer into an Associates or Bachelors degree in Information Technology which can be funded by the Hope Scholarship.

The Hope Grant differs from the Hope Scholarship in that it funds the matriculation associated with certificate programs (such as CNET) without regard to previous degrees or a student's GPA. This opens up several possible paths of study. For example, those without an undergraduate degree can start in the CNET program to establish their GPA and then transfer into the Hope Scholarship provided they meet the 3.0 GPA requirement. For those who are already have a degree and haven't used the Hope Scholarship to fund it, the grant allows them to continue their education with minimal financial impact.

The program is headed by Dr. John Burningham, who will be joining the faculty of CIMS this Fall. "I look forward to moving the CNET lab over to CIMS and integrating the program with the I.T. department", says Burningham.

Students who are interested in studying in any of the programs of CIMS should send an email to cimsInfo@clayton.edu or visit our website at <http://cims.clayton.edu/cimsinfo/>.



Faculty Spotlights



If you're into graph theory or fractal dynamics, you're not alone. Dr. Christopher Raridan, Assistant Professor of Mathematics in CIMS, is an active researcher in these and several other topics. "I think mathematics is about 'finding connections'. That is, seeking out 'crazy' objects, such as those with finite area and infinite perimeter, or looking for ways of explaining complicated ideas in uncomplicated ways".

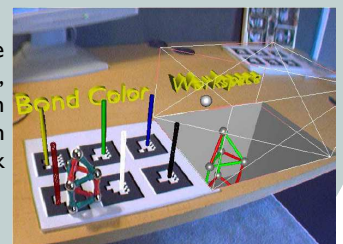
Dr. Raridan graduated with his Ph.D. in Mathematics from The University of Alabama in 2008, and is working hard to become a leader in both research and teaching. "One of the best parts about research is that feeling of accomplishment that comes with hard work, like that feeling you get when you find \$5 in the pocket of your pants after washing them; that sense of 'Wow. I didn't expect that.'"

Dr. Raridan pointed out that mathematics was not always easy for him. "My parents were worried about me in 4th grade because I couldn't figure out long-division and estimation" - which also impacted his interest in education. "When a student asks questions, it lets me know what the student wants or needs and it encourages the student to become more proactive in his or her education. Once a student becomes an active learner, they usually find that math is pretty easy! Well, maybe not 'easy', but students realize that it's not so scary after all!"



Imagine an environment where virtual objects are seamlessly integrated into the physical world. "Whereas Virtual Reality attempts to synthesize most, if not all aspects of a user's experience, Augmented Reality (AR) attempts to superimpose virtual artifacts into the real world", says Associate Professor Jeff Chastine, who received his M.S. in Computer Science from the Georgia Institute of Technology and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Georgia State University.

"There's little doubt that this technology will become part of how we live our daily lives". Such technology, according to Chastine, would enable surgeons to visualize tumors located within the body or architects to see pipes within walls. Chastine has been working in this field since 1999, where he created his first AR experiences for the rock group *Duran Duran*.



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Understanding the Computing Disciplines

With the integration of computers into just about every aspect of life, it can be quite challenging to understand the differences between the major computing disciplines. Here, we present a boiled-down (and perhaps controversial) description of each major in hopes of capturing and clarifying the essence of the degrees.

Computer Engineering (CE) - students who are enrolled as computer engineers analyze and design new computing hardware—very similar to the responsibilities of Electrical Engineers (EEs). They design CPUs, graphics processors, memory, controllers as well as the software (drivers) that run these components. Though CE is not offered at CSU, we offer a dual-degree (Mathematics+Engineering) program with Georgia Tech.

Computer Science (CS) - starting this Fall, CSU will offer a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with an emphasis in computer gaming. CS students focus on the theoretical underpinnings of computing and programming, primarily in how to make systems more efficient. Coursework includes algorithms, operating systems, databases and networking, but also courses in computer graphics, human-computer interaction, and software engineering. This degree prepares students to go into research in industry or graduate studies.

Information Technology (IT) - our IT courses are generally taught as applied computer science. They focus on current technologies to provide students with the cutting-edge skills that employers are looking for. Specializations include programming (for example .NET), database design, networking, web design, and e-commerce.

Computer Information Systems (CIS) - this business-oriented major studies the application of computing to efficiently store, organize and retrieve the wealth of information that businesses rely on. The focus is less on technology and more on information and the needs of business. CIS is not currently offered at CSU.

Technology - students enrolled in general technology courses have a hands-on approach to learning and study current technologies in computer networking, operating systems and other areas to solve real-world problems. For example, students in CNET focus not only on the protocols behind how data is transmitted across networks, but build and configure networks using state-of-the-art hardware.

About the University and College

Clayton State University is a four-year, comprehensive, accredited University, offering more than 30 undergraduate degrees and several Master Degrees. It is conveniently located 15 minutes south of Atlanta and resides on 163 acres.

Clayton State now offers on-campus living, which is an appealing option for both in-state and out-of-state students. The dorms are equipped with high-speed Internet connections (1000Mbps!), cable, a kitchen, laundry facilities, and much more.

CIMS was established in 1998 and is housed within the new Baker University Center—a state-of-the-art building that is equipped with high-speed networking, a variety of computing labs and modern classrooms. It currently employs approximately 30 faculty and offers the following:

Computer Science: As our newest degree which starts next Fall, CIMS offers a traditional Bachelor of Science in Computer Science that emphasizes computer gaming. Courses include computer graphics, architecture, operating systems, networks, game analysis, and human-computer interaction.

Mathematics: CIMS also offers a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics which includes courses in calculus, linear algebra, finite mathematics, statistics, as well as advanced studies in modern geometry, differential equations, numerical methods and graph theory. A minor is also available.

Information Technology: Our IT department offers a Bachelor of Information Technology, where students study the latest technology in networking, security, databases, and eCommerce. The

department offers several courses online, as well as both day and night.

Dual Degree Program with Georgia Tech: Students in this program take coursework in Mathematics for 3 years at CSU and then transfer to Georgia Tech to study engineering for 2 years. After completion at Tech, students receive a Math degree from Clayton State AND an Engineering degree from Georgia Tech.

WebBSIT: Clayton State is a member of the WebBSIT program — a consortium of five universities. The program offers IT core curriculum and all upper-division IT courses fully online. It is ideal for students who maintain full-time jobs, or those that live far away from campus.



Baker Hall was recently opened in Fall 2008.