

**Major Field Assessment Plan**  
**B.S. Computer Science**  
January 2003

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the educational and cultural needs, primarily of Southeast Louisiana, to disseminate knowledge and to facilitate life-long learning through quality instruction, research and service in a safe, student-centered environment.

The mission of the Department of Computer Science is to provide the professional background necessary for successful employment in computing careers or graduate studies in Computer Science.

Goal 1: To provide students with a broad understanding of computer science, as recommended in nationally accepted program guidelines.

- A. Expected Outcome: Computer Science seniors will compare favorably to graduates to other Computer Science programs, nationwide.  
Assessment: SLU graduating computer science majors will take the ETS Major Field Assessment Test in Computer Science and will achieve an average score above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on a national sample of schools in the areas of Programming Methodology and Software Systems.

Goal 2: Computer Science majors will understand software development principles and will be able to successfully apply them.

- A. Expected Outcome: Computer Science students in CMPS 411, Software Engineering, will have felt adequately prepared to tackle a major software development project.  
Assessment: 75% of the students will indicate, on the course exit survey, that they felt that their freshman, sophomore and junior-level coursework at least “adequately prepared” them for the project in CMPS 411.
- B. Expected Outcome: Computer Science students in CMPS 411, Software Engineering, will successfully complete a major software development project.  
Assessment: 75% of the students will earn a grade of “B” or better on the project.

Goal 3: Computer Science graduates will feel adequately prepared for computing careers or for graduate studies in computer science.

- A. Expected Outcome: Computer Science graduates will feel adequately prepared for a career in computing or for graduate studies in computer science or both.  
Assessment: In the *Survey of Undergraduate Alumni*, 75% of computer science graduates will be Satisfied or Very Satisfied with the “Overall Quality of Your Degree Program”.
- B. Expected Outcome: Computer Science graduates will feel that their course work related directly to their jobs or their graduate studies or both.  
Assessment: In the *Survey of Undergraduate Alumni*, 75% of computer science graduates will respond, for 75% of the courses listed, that the concepts they learned in those courses were of “Some Help” or “Lots of Help”.

Note: Students in the BS in Computer Science program will be exposed to cultural and global perspectives through courses in English, history, geography, sociology, and business which cover topics in non-US literature, culture and history.