

Jodrey School of Computer Science



cs.acadiau.ca

Introductions

- Dr. Darcy Benoit - Director and Professor
- School of Computer Science mission: "To produce the best graduates in Computer Science through a superior learning experience that directly involves students in the practice and advancement of the field."

Land Acknowledgment

- The Jodrey School of Computer Science at Acadia University acknowledges that it exists within Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq Nation. This territory is covered by a series of "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqyik signed with the British Crown in 1725 and 1726. The Treaties did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. Acadia is committed to growing and nurturing this relationship and working to fulfil the Truth and Reconciliations Commission's Calls to Action for post-secondary education.

Faculty & Staff

- Dr. Darcy Benoit - Professor & Director
- Dr. Lydia Bouzar-Benlabiod - Assistant Professor
- Dr. Amir Eaman - Assistant Professor
- Dr. Esteve Hassan - Associate Professor (w/Eng)
- Dr. Greg Lee - Associate Professor
- Dr. Sazia Mahfuz - Assistant Professor
- Dr. Andy McIntyre - Assistant Professor
- Dr. Elhadi Shakshuki - Professor
- Dr. Haiyi Zhang - Associate Professor
- Prof. Tavis Bragg - Part Time
- Prof. Cindy Trudel - Part Time
- Prof. Syed Safwan - Part Time

Staff

- Administrative Assistant
 - ➔ Sharon Watson (Carnegie 310)
- Co-op Student
 - ➔ Rosemary Etu-Efeotor (Carnegie 209)
- Robot Programming Competition Staff
 - ➔ Hannah Fisk



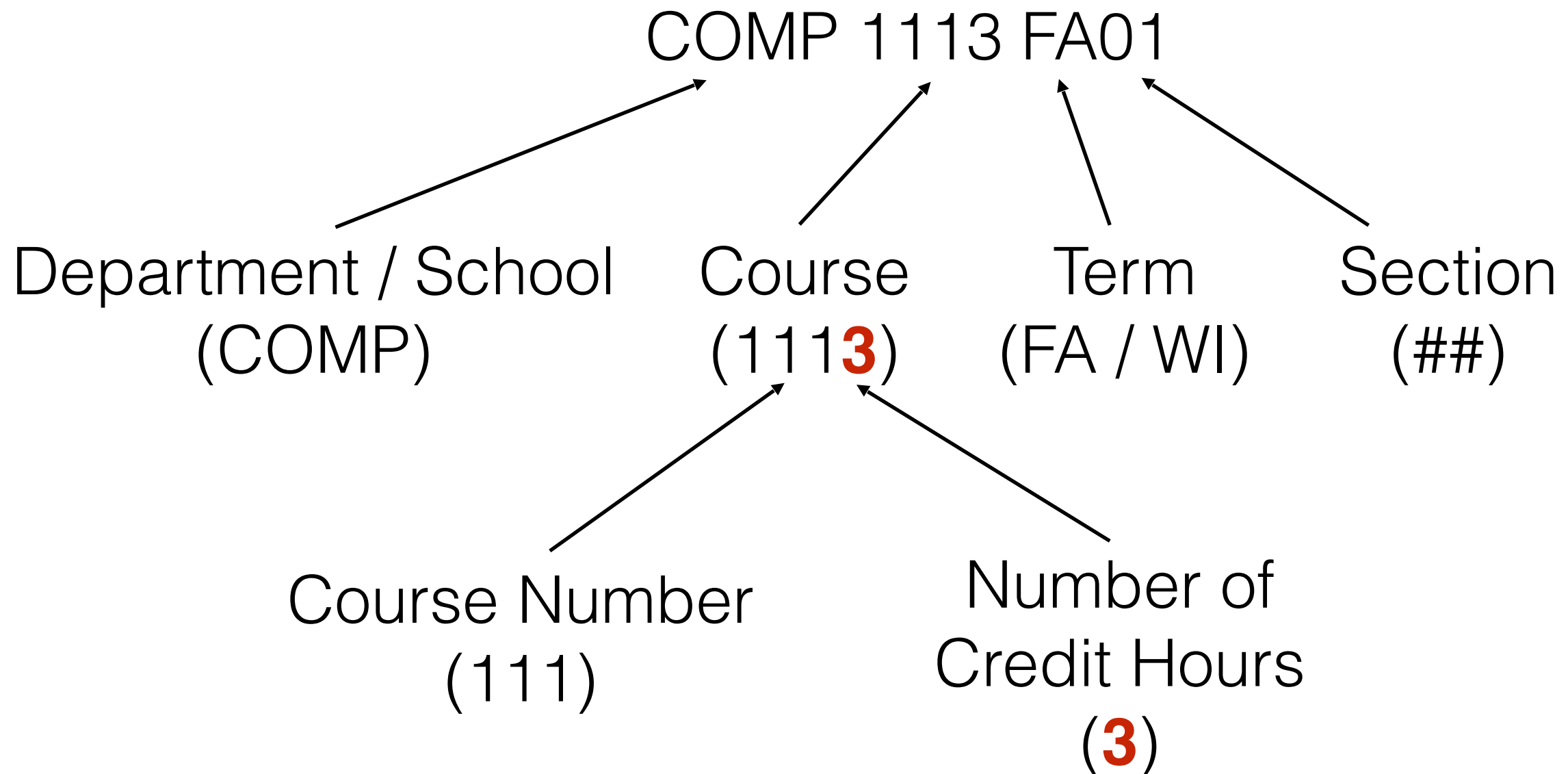
Degree Programs

- **BCS** – Bachelor of Computer Science
- **BCSH** – Honours (thesis)
- **BACS** – Bachelor of Applied Computer Science
 - ➔ Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing
 - ➔ Game Development
 - ➔ Data Analytics
 - ➔ Software Development
 - ➔ Second Major
 - ➔ Interdisciplinary study
- **BScH** – Bachelor of Science with Honours in CS
- **MSc – Masters of Science**
- Note: The BCS and BACS degrees do not require a minor, unlike many other degrees at Acadia.

Programs / Courses

- All the information is on the Registrar's website: <http://registrar.acadiau.ca/>
 - ➔ Copy of the University Calendar
 - ➔ Dates for the Academic school year
 - ✚ Sept 11 - last day to add/drop
 - ✚ Nov 21 - Last day to withdraw
 - ✚ Note: Holidays
 - ➔ myAcadia and how to register for courses:
 - ✚ <https://www2.acadiau.ca/myacadia.html>

How to Read Course Numbers



Degree Credit Hours

- All undergraduate degrees at Acadia require 120 credit hours of classes to graduate.
 - ➔ A course that ends in a “3” is 3 credit hours towards your degree
- Co-op work terms count towards your degree.
- Some courses are anti-requisites or don't count towards your degree. Keep an eye out for these courses to avoid taking them.
 - ➔ Note: The Academic Calendar (not the online course portal) is the definitive authority on courses.

Required First Year Courses (Standard)

Fall

COMP 1113 – Programming 1

COMP 1110L - Lab for C1113

MATH 1013 – Calculus 1

MATH 1010L - Lab for M1013

MATH 1323 – Matrix Algebra

or MATH 1333 – Linear Algebra

2 Elective courses

- Normal course load is 5 (15h) per term
- Labs do not count for credit as they aren't separate courses.
- See the CS website for sequence of required courses
- <http://cs.acadiau.ca/computer-science-degree-programs.html>

Winter

COMP 1123 – Programming 2

COMP 1120L - Lab for C1123

MATH 1023 – Calculus 2

MATH 1020L - Lab for M1023

MATH 1413 – Discrete Math

or Math 1313 - Foundations

2 Elective courses

- Defined options for the BACS may also require additional courses
- Please see Sharon or myself if you have more questions

Required First Year Courses (if you require pre-calc)

Fall

COMP 1113 – Programming 1

MATH 1003-FA01 – Pre-Calculus

MATH 1323 – Matrix Algebra

or MATH 1333 – Linear Algebra

2 Elective courses

Winter

COMP 1123 – Programming 2

MATH 1013-WI01 – Calculus 1

MATH 1413 – Discrete/Matrix

or Math 1313 - Foundations

2 Elective courses

Required First Year Courses for the BACS

- Some of the BACS degrees require Calculus, and some do not. If you have pre-calculus from high school, and you are taking one of the BACS options that do not require calculus, then you do not have to take calculus. You can take the other Math / Comp courses in first year.
- If you do not have pre-calculus from high school, then you still need to take pre-calculus first term. Calculus 1 will not be needed in second term. This would mean taking MATH 1003.
- If your BACS option does require calculus, then you should take calculus like the other COMP students.

Co-operative Education

- Co-op Option
 - ➔ obtain real work experience
 - ➔ apply the knowledge in the workplace
 - ➔ increasing chance of full-time employment
 - ➔ establishing valuable employer contacts
 - ➔ earning a competitive salary
- Requirements:
 - ➔ at least second year of study (60 credit hours)
 - ➔ cumulative GPA of 2.5 or more
- Complete minimum of 3 four-month work terms:
 - ➔ 3 separate four-month terms (fourth optional)
 - ➔ 12 or 16-month internship
- Contact:
 - ➔ co-op@acadiau.ca
 - ➔ https://co-op.acadiau.ca/Co-op_Home.html

Things you should know

- Review the the 2025-26 Academic Calendar (available online from the Registrar's Office website) and know your rights and responsibilities:
 - ➔ p.5 – Calendar dates (also on the Registrar's Webpage)
 - ➔ p.36 – Course adds, drops, changes
 - ➔ p.39 – Academic regulations and Policies
 - ➔ P.44 – Academic Integrity – a serious offence
 - ➔ P.70 – JSOCS regulations, programs
 - ➔ P.148 – JSOCS course list
- When in doubt, talk to Sharon Watson or myself
- **All student information is confidential**
 - ➔ **Note:** We can't talk to your parents unless you sign a form from the Registrar's Office.

Email

- Due to privacy laws, faculty and staff should not respond or contact students on academic matters unless the request has been sent using an **Acadia University email address**. We cannot answer questions sent by your parents unless you fill out a form at the Registrar's office authorizing us to do so.
- **Acadia University Email is the primary source of communication between faculty, staff, and students. You need to check your email daily for official communication. This is how your professors will contact you.**
 - ➔ Set your email or such that it identifies you with your common name and not just 012345x@acadiau.ca.
 - ➔ Include your **full name and student number** in the email body.
 - ➔ Include an informative subject header, such as "Registration for COMP 3343" or "COMP 1113 question on Assignment 2, Problem 1".
 - ➔ Be clear and concise.
 - ➔ Ask focused questions.
 - ➔ Proof read your email before you send.

Advice and Help

- Seek and Consider Advice
 - ➔ Your course professor (visit them during office hours)
 - ➔ JSOCS Office
 - ➔ CS Consultant (free tutoring help)
 - ➔ CaCHe (Coding and Computer Help)
- Many Acadia people to help you:
 - ➔ Student Counselling and Resource Centre
 - ➔ Accessible Learning
 - ➔ Human Rights and Equity Office
 - ➔ Non-Academic Judicial Student Code of Conduct

Accessible Learning Services

- Acadia University is dedicated to improving access to campus life for all students with disabilities. While we attempt to ensure that all courses are accessible, we recognize that there are barriers that need to be addressed on an individual basis. Students who require accommodations to complete coursework or otherwise fully participate in class should contact Accessible Learning Services directly as soon as possible.
- For more information:
 - ➔ accessible.learning@acadiau.ca
 - ➔ <https://www2.acadiau.ca/student-life/accessiblelearning.html>

CaCHe:

Coding and Computer Help

- Held in the student lounge in Carnegie 210.
- Upper year students and the Computer Science Society can provide some free help and tutoring.
- This is similar to the Math and Stats Help centre (MASH) to help with your Math courses.

JSOCS Groups and Activities

- Computer Science Society
- ACM Programming Team
- Science Atlantic Math, Stats, and Computer Science Conference
- <http://robots.acadiau.ca> – Competition in Feb.
- LAN Parties, Lunches, Annual Banquet
- JSOCS Seminar Series

Acadia Computer Science Society (ACSS)



WHAT IS THE ACSS?

- ALL students who are apart of a CS degree (major or minor)
- Building community, sharing knowledge, and improving student life
- Executive members plan events such as LAN Parties, the annual CS Banquet and organize our free tutoring service for everyone!

President: Saif Miskin (4th year BCS Co-op student)



FUN EVENTS WE'RE HOSTING!

(DON'T WORRY WE HAVE MORE COMING)

BITS, BYTES, AND GAMES!

Want a chance to meet new students? Our first event is a great place to socialize, have pizza and play games!

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH
5:30PM IN CAR 210

AI EVENT

Love to innovate and create?
We're hosting our first
coding event in partnership
with Dr. Andrew McIntyre
(AIDA)

OCTOBER 13-17TH

LAN PARTIES


We often host LAN parties
throughout the year for
people to come and hang out
with various types of games!

BE ON THE LOOKOUT!



CaCHe

CODING AND COMPUTER HELP



Need help with assignments? Don't fully understand a topic? We have the spot for you! Join upper year students in the CS student lounge for our FREE tutoring drop in service. Course coverage is dependent on student volunteers

(BUT WE TRY TO COVER A LITTLE OF EVERYTHING)



CAR 210



TBD (but coming soon)



ROLES WE HAVE TO HIRE THIS YEAR!

DEADLINE TO APPLY: SEPTEMBER 17TH

FIRST-YEAR REP

OPEN TO 1st-YEAR STUDENTS ONLY

- Get involved and meet new people!
- Make sure that fellow first-years felt heard and stay in the know
- Friendly face within your year
- Represent your classmates at our executive meetings

TREASURER

*Suitable for upper-years, but open to everyone

- Planning budgets and fundraisers
- Filling out funding applications and reimbursements
- Detail-oriented
- Experience is helpful but not required

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

- Center of communications to students, faculty, and other departments
- Design and post content mainly for promoting events
- For those who love to create (and are chronically online)

EVENTS COORDINATOR

- For students who love to create and plan fun and exciting events for other students
- Brainstorm new events
- Create plans
- Collaboration with others



JOIN THE ACSS!

WANT TO APPLY TO THE
EXEC TEAM?



JOIN OUR DISCORD!



For updates,
questions, and
announcements
within the ACSS!

Math Diagnostic Exam

- Usually conducted during the first Math 1010 Studio (so bring your laptops).
- Only for those students enrolled in Math 1013
- You will complete an online test (25 questions).
 - ➔ (Sample test - <https://math.acadiau.ca/current-students/math-diagnostic-test.html>)
- Students who receive a low mark need to meet with the Math Department to discuss their Calculus options.

Student Advising

- Unlike some departments, all of the advising is done by Sharon and myself.
- Feel free to talk to other faculty members concerning advice on their research areas.
- If you are having problems (either in a course or otherwise), please come to us immediately so that we can arrange for you to get help.
- Call/email Sharon to book an appointment or drop in to (Carnegie 310) during the week.
 - ➔ Note: If emailing, include times that you are available to meet, as that speeds up the appointment-making process.

Your Schedule

- If you are not currently enrolled in 30h of courses (5 per term), and you are not in the following courses, please see us this afternoon in Carnegie 310.
- Required courses:
 - ➔ COMP: 1113, 1123
 - ➔ MATH: (1013 & 1023) or (1003 & 1013), 1323, and 1413

Note: Wait lists

- There are often wait lists for Math 1413 and Math 1013. These should clear up in the next couple of days, so please make sure that you add yourself to the waitlists for these courses. I would suggest going to the class the first day even if you are not “officially” in the class.
- If you are wait listed for Math 1023 in the second term, don't worry - this will clear up before the class starts.

Academic Integrity

- Know the policies for your classes
- In general, discussing issues and then coding your own solution isn't a problem.
- In general, having someone help you find a bug in your code isn't a problem.
- Copying code (either from a friend or online) or using online websites like Chegg is **not allowed**. This includes generating code with AI tools like ChatGPT, GitHub Copilot, etc.
- If you aren't doing the work yourself, then it isn't your work.

Academic Integrity (cont'd)

- Academic integrity is not just for coding:
 - ➔ **All written work should be your own.** Having your work “rewritten” by QuillBot, Grammarly, or some other AI tool means that the words are not your own.
 - ➔ Copying answers on quizzes, midterms, and exams is forbidden.

Academic Integrity (penalties)

- All Academic Integrity issues go through the unit head, who determines if there is an infraction (and what the penalty is).
- All infractions are reported to the Registrar's Office.
 - ➔ More than two infractions means that the penalty is determined by the Dean and not the unit head.
- Penalties can range from redoing the work to expulsion from the university.

myAcadia

- The myAcadia Self Service system is where you can go to check your degree progress and register for classes.
- You can also see what your progress would be like if you changed degrees or how a particular course will fit in your degree.
- This system is very useful for planning, and is what Sharon and I will use when advising you on your degree progress.

Moodle

- <http://Moodle.acadiau.ca/>
- This is where most of your course material and assignments will be located.

Scent-Free Campus

- Acadia is a scent-free campus, so please refrain from any scented products. This includes perfumes, aftershaves, and scented hair spray or scented deodorant.
- Please also be aware of any residual odours that may cause issues (smoking, cooking, working out at the gym, etc).

This Afternoon

- I will be available in Carnegie Hall (room 311) for one-on-one advising. Just drop by sometime between 1:30pm and 4:00pm.