



SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
CAREER SERVICES

COMPUTER SCIENCE

MAJOR CAREER GUIDE

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ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Follow this link to the Salem State University Computer Science Department home page. Here you will find program information, degree options, course listings, licensure information, events information and much more:
<https://www.salemstate.edu/academics/college-arts-and-sciences/computer-science>

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Are you a Computer Science major or are you considering Computer Science as a major? Follow the link below to the “What Can I Do With My Major?” resource on the Salem State University Career Services web site:
<https://elearning.salemstate.edu/courses/939337/pages/what-can-you-do-with-your-major>

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

As in any profession, staying connected to professionals in your field is vital. Below are links to professional associations for Computer Science professionals. Stay up to date with industry trends, connect with fellow Computer Science professionals and utilize resources for job searching:

[Association for Computing Machinery](#)

[Association of Information Technology Professionals](#)

[USENIX, the Advanced Computing Systems Association](#)

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWING

Informational interviewing is a method of gathering information about career options, industries and employers. It is an opportunity to learn about a particular job from someone already in the field. It is *not* a job interview, but it can help you learn about job opportunities and build your network for when the job search comes. This is an ideal chance to help you gain a more thorough understanding of a particular industry or job. It's also a great way to determine “is this what I want to do?” and to learn about different paths others have taken to get where they are.

JOB SHADOWING

An additional option you may want to consider to obtain information about your industry of choice is job shadowing. Job shadowing is an opportunity to step into the life of a professional in your field while they are working. Typically, job shadow experiences will last anywhere from one day to one week. Much like an informational interview, this is your opportunity to see firsthand what a “day in the life” of a professional is like.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is another great way to learn about what to expect when working in your industry. Similar to a job shadow, you will be able to see a “day in the life” of a professional while also contributing some of your own skills or services. Volunteering can give you a chance to gain new expertise and help you narrow down your specific interests in the field. Follow the links below to help you identify current volunteer opportunities:

<http://volunteer.nsw.org/>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Computing Research Association Student Resources:

- <http://cra.org/for-students/>

SAMPLE RESUME

MICKEY MACINTOSH

50 Apple Street, Salem, MA 01970 | 978-542-7658 | mmac@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Salem State University, Salem, MA

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science

May 20XX

GPA: 3.5

Relevant Coursework:

- Survey of Computer Science
- Software Design and Programming
- Computer Security Basics
- Database Systems
- Scripting Techniques
- Operating System Principles
- Software Engineering
- Artificial Intelligence
- Analysis of Algorithms

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

ABC Research, Beverly, MA

Collaborative User Experience Group Intern

May 20XX – May 20XX

- Developed wikis, blogs, and social networks with a team of computer and social scientists
- Contributed technical support to development of new software programs

Peabody Institute Library, Danvers, MA

Web Developer

October 20XX– February 20XX

- Developed and maintained individualized websites for a range of divisions across the library
- Assisted in the technical administration of the library intranet and calendar systems

YMCA, Marblehead, MA

Computer Teacher

September 20XX- October 20XX

- Taught basic computer skills to elderly town residents
- Advocated for proper keyboarding techniques with YMCA members
- Conducted small group sessions with elementary school aged children to teach basic coding

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Red's Restaurant, Salem, MA

Waiter

January 20XX - Present

- Provided efficient service to customers
- Answered questions and resolved concerns
- Worked effectively as a member of a team in a fast paced environment

SKILLS

Computers: IBM; Excel, Access, Power Point, Microsoft Word, Photoshop, AutoPlan, Applix Word, Graphics, FrameMaker, Lotus Notes, NetObjects Fusion, Dreamweaver and SAP, SunOS, HTML, SQL database queries

INVOLVEMENT

Children's Tech Night Planning Committee, FIRST Robotics club

SAMPLE COVER LETTER

MICKEY MACINTOSH

50 Apple Street, Salem, MA 01970 | 978-542-7658 | mmac@gmail.com

September 23, 20XX

Sergio Jobs
A9 Technology
75 Infinity Loop Avenue
Salem, MA 01970

Dear Mr. Jobs:

I recently saw your advertisement in TechAfficionado Magazine for an Entry-level Software Engineer. As my resume indicates, I am a recent Computer Science graduate from Salem State University. I have a strong base of knowledge in a variety of operating systems, software development tools, and file systems as well as practical experience in these areas. For this reason, I believe I am an excellent fit both within your organization and within the position of Entry-level Software Engineer.

As a result of my position at the Peabody Institute Library, I gained experience in developing and debugging C++ code, which is similar to some of the responsibilities outlined in your job description. In addition, my internship at ABC Research allowed me to enhance my problem-solving skills by working collaboratively with a team to come to complex solutions. In one instance, a team member and I merged our conflicting ideas to create a new protocol for troubleshooting a problematic software program. My classroom experience allowed me to gain advanced understanding of a variety of hardware and software, including Dreamweaver and Lotus Notes. These experiences combined with my creative and analytical skills make me an ideal candidate for the Entry-level Software Engineer position.

A9 Technology is a leader in creating data storage solutions, but it does so while maintaining its identity as a small, focused enterprise. This type of environment will be both challenging and educational for a recent computer science scholar. I am eager to discuss the ways that I can contribute to this organization in the role of Entry-level Software Engineer. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Mickey Macintosh

SAMPLE COMPANIES

ADDON TECHNOLOGIES INC
AMERICAN WELL
ANTRA INC
BAANYAN SOFTWARE SERVICES INC
BLUE COW SOFTWARE
CA TECHNOLOGIES
CASENET, LLC
DEXTER SYSTEMS INC
FDM GROUP
FIREBRAND TECHNOLOGIES
FIRST-TEK
IKASYSTEMS
IMCS GROUP
MORGAN SCIENTIFIC, INC
ONWARD TECHNOLOGIES
PEOPLEGIS
PTC
QSQ INTERNATIONAL (AMERICAS) INC
ROCKET SOFTWARE
SCOPIC SOFTWARE
THE COMPUTER MERCHANT, LTD
VIRTUAL INC
VSOLVIT
ZEROTURNAROUND