

Bluegrass Community & Technical College Computer Information Technology

Certified April 8, 2020

Program Summary

BCTC's AAS degree in Computer & Information Technologies has been designated as a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The program includes tracks in Business Software and Support, Data Center Technologies, Geospatial Technologies, Informatics, Internet Technologies, Network Technologies, Programming, and Video Game Design, with a core of courses common to all. The core includes a general education component essential to a collegiate education and a technical component giving students an introduction to information systems, computer applications, program development, system maintenance, networking, security, Internet technologies, database design, and collaborative system development. In addition to core courses, students take specialty courses for their selected track.

The program provides hands-on experience students need to design, maintain and use different computing technologies.

Strengths & Noteworthy Practices

Students are required to complete CIT-293, a course focused on career services. Each student is required to create an error-free portfolio of employment documents, using computer technology to assist with composition, proofreading, and formatting.

The CyberChallenge 1 team-based competition which necessitates much collaboration. The goal of the CyberChallenge 1 is to expose vulnerabilities built into the defense network and to observe attack vectors through Intrusion Detection System from the attack network.

Advisory Board meetings happen twice each year. Employer and academic collaboration is well represented by BCTC faculty, University of Kentucky faculty, and several employers. Minutes verify that members of the academic Advisory Board consistently gather feedback about students, graduates and the program as a whole. Additionally, new curriculum requires the support of local industry and government.

An insightful student survey question asks whether: "The instructor uses examples of how the subject is applicable to the real world." An insightful alumni rated survey statement asks whether: "Equipment/technology in my program at BCTC was up-to-date with current industry standards."



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