

IT Computer Support Specialist

Associates of Applied Science

The Computer Support Specialist Associate Degree prepares individuals for help desk positions which provide technical support, assistance, advice, troubleshooting, training, and documentation to end computer users for hardware, software, and systems. The Computer Support Specialist has a working knowledge of computer hardware and software and their applications within wide area networks. The specialist is also familiar with the Internet, designing, developing, and publishing web sites; database design, development, and administration; basic computer network technologies; and low-level programming. The program also prepares students for CompTIA A+, CompTIA Network +, Security +Cisco CCNA, EC-Council Certified Ethical Hacker, and other Information Technology Certifications.

Program Outline

| TERM 1 | | |
|------------|---|---------|
| Course # | Course Title | Credits |
| 1015411500 | Office Applications Associate This course explores Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook to an intermediate level. This course is aligned with the Microsoft Office Specialist: Associate (Office 2019) certification, which includes MO-100: Microsoft Word, MO-200: Microsoft Excel, and MO-400: Microsoft Outlook (Office 2019) certification exams. | 2.00 |
| 1080119500 | Written Communication Develops writing skills which include prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. A variety of writing assignments is designed to help the learner analyze audience and purpose, research and organize ideas, and format and design documents based on subject matter and content. Also develops critical reading and thinking skills through the analysis of a variety of written documents. | 3.00 |
| 1015110500 | Digital Literacy with Cyber Security This course will cover identifying and differentiating between major computer components, Microsoft Windows operating system and application operations, computing environment issue troubleshooting, making connections between office network devices, file management, and basic cybersecurity threats and best practices. | 1.00 |
| 1015011400 | Network+ Fundamentals This course explores network cabling and hardware devices, switching and routing, security, addressing, Ethernet and wireless, LANs and WANs, operations and management, and optimization and troubleshooting. This course is aligned with the CompTIA Network+ (N10-008) certification exam. | 3.00 |
| 1015417700 | Web Programming Fundamentals Introduces the learner to the principles of web page development. In this course the students will learn to develop static web pages that contain text, images, and videos. Students will also link multiple web pages to produce a complete website. | 3.00 |
| 1015211500 | Database Fundamentals Students learn the fundamental concepts and applications of relational database tables using a hands-on approach. Topics include database architectures, data structures, planning, creation, inquiry, updating, input and output forms (reporting), and importation of data from an outside source for use in databases. | 3.00 |

TERM 2

| Course # | Course Title | Credits |
|------------|---|---------|
| 1080413400 | Mathematical Reasoning An activity based approach is used to explore numerical relationships, graphs, proportional relationships, algebraic reasoning, and problem solving using linear, exponential and other mathematical models. Students will develop conceptual and procedural tools that support the use of key mathematical concepts in a variety of contexts. This course is not designed for Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM) students and/or others who require calculus. Prerequisite: 7785478000 Principles of College Math (C or better) or Accuplacer Algebra score ≥ 35 or UW Math Placement Basic Math Skills score ≥ 250 or ACT Mathematics score ≥ 18 or Tailwind Math College Math Fund score ≥ 16 . | 3.00 |
| 1080919500 | Economics With a focus on contemporary issues, this introductory course covers cost-benefit analysis, economics systems of the world, globalization, supply and demand, market structures, the labor market, economic growth, unemployment, inflation, business cycles, money, and government economic policy. The course strives to help students improve their individual and household decision-making, understand business decision-making, comprehend the current national and international economic issues and policies, and critically evaluate government response to economic concerns. | 3.00 |
| 1015212000 | Introduction to Programming Introduces the learner to programming concepts using structured logic and basic concepts related to computer programming and program development. Programs will be developed using sequential, selection, and looping control structures, functions, arithmetic calculations. | 3.00 |
| 1015414000 | A+ Computer Essentials This course explores computer hardware, operating systems, software, networking, troubleshooting, virtualization, and security concepts. This course is aligned with the CompTIA A+ Core 1 and Core 2 certification exams. | 3.00 |
| 1015114000 | IT Security This course explores the threats, attacks, and vulnerabilities to an organization's devices, applications, and infrastructure throughout the enterprise. Tools, techniques, and technologies will further the exploration that help assess, secure, and monitor organizational assets as well as respond, investigate, and recover from incidents. This course is aligned with the CompTIA Security+ certification exam. | 3.00 |

TERM 3

| Course # | Course Title | Credits |
|------------|--|---------|
| 1080119600 | Oral Interpersonal Communication Focuses upon developing speaking, verbal and nonverbal communications, and listening skills through individual presentations, groups activities, and other projects. | 3.00 |
| 1015015000 | Windows Client This course explores enterprise client operating system installation, configuration, performance, access, management, and protection. This course is aligned with the Microsoft 365 Certified: Endpoint Administrator Associate certification exams. Prerequisite: 1015414000 A Plus Computer Essentials (C or better). | 3.00 |
| 1015018000 | Windows Hybrid Server Core Infrastructure This course explores enterprise server operating system on-premises server, cloud and Azure concepts, IP address management, DNS implementation, Active Directory, Group Policy, hybrid server and workload management, storage and file service management, virtualization and containers, and network connectivity. This course is aligned with the Microsoft AZ-800: Administering Windows Server Hybrid Core Infrastructure certification exam. Prerequisites: 1015011400 Network Plus Fundamentals (C or better) and 1015015000 Windows Client (C or better) (concurrent enrollment allowed). | 3.00 |

| Course # | Course Title | Credits |
|------------|--|---------|
| 1089010300 | Professional Career Management This course will cover identification of individual interests and the occupations they align with, finding employment, creating a resume and cover letter, participating in an interview, and best practices for maintaining professional employment. | 1.00 |
| 1015113500 | Pen Testing Plus This course explores security penetration testing, system hacking, malware and sniffers, reconnaissance and enumeration, session hijacking and DoS, firewalls and honeypots, SQL injections and cryptography, and more. This course is aligned with the EC-Council Certified Ethical Hacker certification exam. Prerequisites: 1015114000 IT Security (C or better) and 1015011400 Network Plus Fundamentals (C or better). | 3.00 |
| 1015113000 | Cybersecurity Analyst This course explores security vulnerability assessment and management, threat intelligence and hunting, system and network architecture, vulnerability assessments, network security and management, host-based attacks, and post-attack response. This course is aligned with the CompTIA Cybersecurity Analyst (CS0-003) certification exam. Prerequisites: 1015114000 IT Security (C or better) and 1015011400 Network Plus Fundamentals (C or better). | 3.00 |

TERM 4

| Course # | Course Title | Credits |
|------------|--|---------|
| 1080919900 | Psychology of Human Relations Focuses on improving personal and job-related relationships through understanding and applying sound psychological principles. Topics include self-concept, motivation, emotions, stress management, conflict resolution, and human relation processes. | 3.00 |
| 1015416500 | Project Management This course explores project management principles and practices, including project initiation, project team roles and responsibilities, the Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), project schedule creation, resource planning and management, project budget and risk plan definition, project communications, change request processing and procurement documents, and project tools and documentation. This course is aligned with the CompTIA Project+ certification exam. | 3.00 |
| 1015013000 | CCNA Networking 1 This course explores enterprise networking concepts, Cisco devices, IPv4 and IPv6 addressing, switching, and IPv4 and IPv6 routing. This course is the first of two aligned with the Cisco CCNA certification exam. Prerequisite: 1015011400 Network Plus Fundamentals (C or better). | 3.00 |
| 1015014500 | CCNA Networking 2 This course explores enterprise networking wireless networks, WAN implementation, advanced switching, access control lists (ACLs), management, security, and cryptography. This course is the second of two aligned with the Cisco CCNA certification exam. Prerequisite: 1015013000 CCNA Networking 1 (C or better). | 3.00 |
| 1015417000 | Help Desk Fundamentals This course explores IT service management within the ITIL framework, including customer service, end-user support, troubleshooting, helpdesk applications, and the creation and delivery of IT training to others. | 3.00 |

Total Credits: 61.00

Talk with a Success Coach about the program outline. Together, you will determine if credits you've already earned satisfy any requirements, discuss possible alternative courses, and choose the best classes if you're thinking of transferring.

At A Glance

How You'll Learn

Term Start Dates

Spring 2025

January 13 - 16-Week Spring Term Start

Summer 2025

May 19 - 12-Week Summer Term Start

Fall 2025

August 25 - 16-Week Fall Term Start

Start dates represent the beginning of a new term. Certain programs or courses may not be available to start every term. Please view the [course schedules](#) for a list of upcoming classes or contact the Welcome Center at 715-365-4493.

[VIEW FULL ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)

Program Tuition*

\$9,693

Books & Supplies*

\$1,029

*Total cost for degree completion is estimated by current course requirements, books, and supplies. Tuition and fees are set by the Wisconsin Technical College System and subject to change.

Financial Aid Eligible

► [Potential Indirect Costs](#)

What You'll Learn

- Manage Information technology hardware
- Manage software
- Support computer networks
- Provide end user support
- Solve information technology problems
- Demonstrate customer service skills as an IT professional
- Demonstrate the ability to write interactive programs using a web interface

Transfer Opportunities

Take a look at our transfer agreements to seamlessly transfer your degree to a 4-year university.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT TRANSFERRING](#)

Your Potential Careers

- Computer Support Specialist
 - Technical Support Specialist
 - Help-Desk Technician
 - Network Administrator
 - Systems Administrator
 - Cybersecurity Analyst
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Median Annual Salary

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| \$47,206 | \$48,426 | \$49,893 |
| Local | State | National |

Lightcast 2023.1

Get Started

Your application can be submitted online, it takes just a few minutes to complete.

[APPLY NOW](#)