School of Digital Sciences

Kent State University’s School of Digital Sciences is a cutting-edge new interdisciplinary school designed to train tomorrow’s digital leaders. Integrating elements of computer science, computer information systems, computer technology, library information science, visual communication design, journalism, communication studies, and instructional technology, it fosters a broad exposure to digital technologies as used by a wide range of professions and organizations.

The School offers the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees, an undergraduate minor, a Master of Digital Sciences degree, and a Post-Baccalaureate certificate.

Undergraduate Programs
- Digital Sciences - B.A.
- Digital Sciences - B.S.

Minors
- Digital Sciences

Graduate Programs
- Digital Sciences - M.D.S.

Certificates

Digital Sciences (DSCI)

DSCI 10010 SOCIETY, CULTURE AND THE DIGITAL SCIENCES 3 Credit Hours
A survey course intended to give a broad understanding of society, culture and the digital sciences. Students understand not only the impact of digital sciences on culture and society, but also the impact of culture and society on the development and adoption of digital sciences. Topics include relationship and identify formation and maintenance, the relationship between digital science and race, gender, culture and globalization.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 10310 MY STORY ON THE WEB 3 Credit Hours
A first course in understanding the web’s impact on our private and public lives. Introductory course that enables students to establish a web presence and persona by the end of the semester. Through the storytelling initiative and creating these sites, students investigate web site design, storytelling, multimedia, intellectual property, ethical considerations and social media.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 10410 INFORMATION ETHICS AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY 3 Credit Hours
Investigates ethical and social responsibility issues related to information technology including the application of ethical theories to information technology; potential tensions between ethical and legal norms as well as those between competing ethical values; professional codes of ethics; access and control of intellectual property; issues of privacy including those raised by the US Patriot Act; network security and user protections (e.g. viruses, protecting minors, cyberbullying); and the digital divide, outsourcing and green computing.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 13210 DESIGN PROCESSES AND PRINCIPLES 3 Credit Hours
Introduction to the discipline of design, including general design models and procedures, rational and creative models of design, and design as problem solving. Specific design contexts are introduced including information design, graphics and visual design, architectural design and educational design.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 15310 COMPUTATIONAL THINKING AND PROGRAMMING 3 Credit Hours
Introductory, broad, and hands-on coverage of basic aspects of computational thinking with emphasis on problem solving using the Python programming language.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
DSCI 19995 SPECIAL TOPICS IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Analysis of significant and current issues in digital sciences not covered in regular courses. Offered when opportunities and resources permit; the topic is announced when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-4 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 23410 COGNITION IN TECHNOLOGY 3 Credit Hours
Introduction to the basics in human cognition as they affect technology and as technology affects human cognition. Addresses designing technologies to fit and enhance cognition, augmenting cognition with technology, and cognitive tools, as well as the impact of technology on various cognitive processes.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 26010 TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE 3 Credit Hours
Provides an overview of communications infrastructure for public switched telephone networks, wireless networks, and local area networks. Other topics covered include network routing, LAN concepts and technologies, VoIP, and PBX.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 29995 SPECIAL TOPICS IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Analysis of significant and current issues in digital sciences not covered in regular courses. Offered when opportunities and resources permit; the topic is announced when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-4 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 31010 ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE 3 Credit Hours
Enterprise architecture facilitates the alignment of IT and IS investment decisions with business goals. Enterprise architecture is increasingly used in the industry as a result of the continued emergence of new technologies and ongoing pressures to reengineer business processes to achieve improved efficiency and greater customer focus. Enterprise architecture identifies the main components of an organization and the ways in which these components work together. The components include performance and strategy, people, business capabilities, applications, technology, knowledge and information, as well as financial and other resources.
Prerequisite: sophomore standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 33310 HUMAN-COMPUTER INTERACTION 3 Credit Hours
A survey course intended to provide a broad foundation of HCI principles, concepts, and techniques relevant to multiple digital science concentrations. Focuses on understanding HCI through fundamental design concepts and applying these to a range of interface design problems. Covers the spectrum of a user-centered design process (research, sketching, prototyping, evaluation, etc). Balances a broad conceptual understanding of HCI with detailed interface design issues.
Prerequisite: sophomore standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 34410 DIGITAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND PROCESSING 3 Credit Hours
Introduces students to the discipline of information management and processing methods and tools that are available to support effective management of information within organizations. Aims to provide a pragmatic foundation of principles, practices and technologies that can be applied within commercial and government organizations to help improve information management.
Prerequisite: sophomore standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 39995 SPECIAL TOPICS IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Analysis of significant and current issues in digital sciences not covered in regular courses. Offered when opportunities and resources permit; the topic is announced when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-4 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 40910 CAPSTONE IN DIGITAL SCIENCES (ELR) 3 Credit Hours
Provides an integrative experience, bringing together components of the required coursework in the major. Students work in project teams with students from upper-division project courses in programs affiliated with the School of Digital Sciences.
Prerequisite: DSCI 41510 and TECH 46411; and MIS 44043 or CS 33007; and senior standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Experiential Learning Requirement

DSCI 41510 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND TEAM DYNAMICS (WIC) 3 Credit Hours
Introduces students to the basic elements of project management as it relates to software development and the corporate environment. Although not formally endorsed by The Project Management Institute, the course aligns with the project management lifecycle approach endorsed in The Project Management Book of Knowledge.
Prerequisite: DSCI 15310 or CS 13001 or CS 13012 or MIS 24065; and junior standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
DSCI 41610 DIGITAL SYSTEMS SECURITY 3 Credit Hours
Provides students with an understanding of the techniques, approaches, strategies, and computer security tactics that are used to ensure computer-related assets are protected from potential cyber compromise and are integrated with the business function. This course does not focus on the technical aspects of security (e.g., details of the operating system, data structures, or networks) but instead focuses more on computer security in a business context.
Prerequisite: DSCI 15310 or CS 13001 or CS 13012 or MIS 24065; and junior standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 49910 EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with DSCI 59910) Explores new and emerging technologies in the digital sciences, examining each technology from multiple viewpoints representative of the interdisciplinary nature of the digital sciences.
Prerequisite: junior standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 49992 INTERNSHIP IN DIGITAL SCIENCES (ELR) 1-6 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for a maximum of 6 credit hours) A credit-bearing work experience with educational outcomes, utilizing and enhancing a student’s academic learning in practical occupational situations. The student is expected to complete pre-determined assignments, which may include a weekly journal, final paper, or experience report.
Prerequisite: junior standing and special approval.
Schedule Type: Practicum or Internship
Contact Hours: 3-18 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Experiential Learning Requirement

DSCI 49995 SPECIAL TOPICS IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Analysis of significant and current issues in digital sciences not covered in regular courses. Offered when opportunities and resources permit; the topic is announced when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite: none.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-4 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 49996 INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-3 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for a maximum of 6 credit hours) Independent study carried out by a student under the supervision of a faculty member. Subject content, objectives, assignments and evaluation methods may vary.
Prerequisite: junior standing and special approval.
Schedule Type: Individual Investigation
Contact Hours: 1-3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter-IP

DSCI 51510 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND TEAM DYNAMICS 3 Credit Hours
This course introduces students to the basic elements of project management as it relates to software development and the corporate environment. Although not formally endorsed by The Project Management Institute (www.PMI.org), the course will align with the project management lifecycle approach endorsed in The Project Management Book of Knowledge.
Prerequisite: graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 51610 DIGITAL SYSTEMS SECURITY 3 Credit Hours
Provides students with an advanced understanding of the techniques, approaches, strategies, and computer security tactics that are used to ensure computer-related assets are protected from potential cyber compromise and are integrated with the business function. This course does not focus on the technical aspects of security (e.g., details of the operating system, data structures, or networks) but instead focuses more on computer security in a business context.
Prerequisite: graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 59910 EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with DSCI 49910) Explores new and emerging technologies in the digital sciences, examining each technology from multiple viewpoints representative of the interdisciplinary nature of the digital sciences.
Prerequisite: graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 59995 SPECIAL TOPICS IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Analysis of significant and current issues in digital sciences not covered in regular courses. Offered when opportunities and resources permit; the topic is announced when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite: graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-4 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 60998 CAPSTONE PROJECT IN DIGITAL SCIENCES 3 Credit Hours
Provides an integrative experience, bringing together components of the required coursework in the major and concentration. Students perform individual work on a project, research paper, or practicum under the supervision of faculty from programs affiliated with the School of Digital Sciences. Students must be in their final semester in the Master of Digital Sciences program to enroll in this course.
Prerequisite: graduate standing, a minimum GPA of 3.00 and special approval by Digital Sciences Graduate Coordinator.
Schedule Type: Master’s Project
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
DSCI 61010 ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE 3 Credit Hours
Explores the alignment of IT and IS investment decisions with business goals. Enterprise architecture is increasingly used in industry as a result of the continued emergence of new technologies and ongoing pressures to reengineer business processes to achieve improved efficiency and greater customer focus. Enterprise architecture identifies the main components of an organization and the ways in which these components work together. The components include performance and strategy, people, business capabilities, applications, technology, knowledge and information, as well as financial and other resources.
Prerequisite: graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 61310 ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE: ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE METHODOLOGY 2 Credit Hours
Provides an introduction to the Enterprise Architecture Center of Excellence (EACOE) methodology for enterprise architecture and practical experience using that methodology. Students learn to model a business' current or desired future state using architectural models of goals, processes, materials, roles, locations and events. Implementation models are then developed to show relationships between architectural models, and the models are analyzed to identify move-ahead initiatives that include projects, gaps, overlaps and opportunities. These initiatives are prioritized to move the business to a desired future state. At the conclusion of the course, students have the option of submitting their course enterprise architecture artifacts to EACOE for certification. Pre/Co-requisite: DSCI 61010.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 2 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 61510 PROJECT MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP 3 Credit Hours
This course introduces advanced project management and project management leadership as it relates to software development and the corporate environment. The course focuses on the project management principles of effective planning, communication and motivation throughout the project lifecycle, and one key project management deliverable such as the project management plan. Although not formally endorsed by The Project Management Institute (www.PMI.org), the course will align with the project management lifecycle approach endorsed in The Project Management Book of Knowledge. Pre-requisite: DSCI 41510 or DSCI 51510; and graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 62010 BUSINESS ARCHITECTURE 3 Credit Hours
Exploration of the concept of business architecture as the critical component of enterprise architecture. Students learn how to develop an enterprise business architecture, to apply business architecture principles, methods and artifacts to support business IT alignment and to support change management needed to implement roadmaps and initiatives based on the business architecture. Students learn how different enterprise architecture frameworks approach the business layer. Pre-requisite: DSCI 61010; graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 64010 DATA ARCHITECTURE 3 Credit Hours
Explores the concept of data modeling at the conceptual and logical level of abstraction within the context of enterprise architecture. Students learn to identify business needs in terms of data to gain a holistic view of organizational data. Students use Master Data Management (MDM) and approaches to define various data sources.
Prerequisite: DSCI 61010 Enterprise Architecture; graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 64210 DATA SCIENCE 3 Credit Hours
Overview of the concept of data mining, machine learning, big data, and data analytics, including the business challenges of working with data to solve real-world business problems. Students become familiar with the Cross Industry Standard Process for Data Mining (CRISP-DM). Fundamental concepts include Business Problem Understanding, Data Understanding, Data Preparation, Modeling, Evaluation, and Deployment. Data analytics in industry verticals are discussed, including science, intelligence and law enforcement, health, retail and financial services.
Prerequisite: graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 65010 APPLICATION AND TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECTURE 3 Credit Hours
Introduction to the concept of application and technology architectures in the context of enterprise architecture. Students learn how to define application and technology architecture principles and standards to support business performance, and to evaluate existing architectures in relation to performance goals. Students learn to work with application and technology artifacts and matrices, prepare a technology dictionary and develop an application architecture blueprint.
Prerequisite: DSCI 61010 and graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 69199 THESIS I 2-6 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for a maximum of 6 credits hours) Thesis students must register for a total of 6 hours and may take 2 to 6 hours per semester distributed over several semesters if desired.
Prerequisite: graduate standing and special approval by the Digital Sciences Graduate Coordinator.
Schedule Type: Masters Thesis
Contact Hours: 2-6 other
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory-IP

DSCI 69299 THESIS II 2 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Thesis students must continue registration each semester until all degree requirements are met.
Prerequisite: DSCI 69199 and graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Masters Thesis
Contact Hours: 2 other
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory-IP
DSCI 69992  INTERNSHIP IN DIGITAL SCIENCES  1-3 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for a maximum of 6 credit hours) A credit-bearing work experience with educational outcomes, utilizing and enhancing a student's academic learning in practical occupational situations. The student is expected to complete pre-determined assignments, which may include a weekly journal, final paper or experience report. No more than 3 credit hours of DSCI 69992 Internship in Digital Sciences may be applied toward approved electives in the Master of Digital Sciences. Satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) graded. In-progress (IP) mark permissible. Prerequisites: graduate standing and special approval.
Prerequisite: graduate standing and special approval.
Schedule Type: Practicum or Internship
Contact Hours: 3-9 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 69995  SPECIAL TOPICS IN DIGITAL SCIENCES  1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Analysis of significant and current issues in digital sciences not covered in regular courses. Offered when opportunities and resources permit; the topic is announced when the course is scheduled.
Prerequisite: graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 1-4 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

DSCI 69996  INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN DIGITAL SCIENCES  1-3 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Independent study carried out by a student under the supervision of a faculty member. Subject content, objectives, assignments, and evaluation methods may vary.
Prerequisite: graduate standing and special approval.
Schedule Type: Individual Investigation
Contact Hours: 1-3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter-IP