College of Integrated Science and Engineering

Summer Orientation 2025

Dr. M. Afzal Upal Associate Dean, CISE



Welcome to the College of Integrated Science and Engineering (CISE – pronounced "size")!



We value theoretical knowledge, but we thrive on applying that knowledge.



Small Group Discussion

Transitioning from high school to university

- What do you expect will be the same/familiar?
- What do you expect to be different?



Sharing Your Conversations

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY.



Transitioning from high school to university

Similar

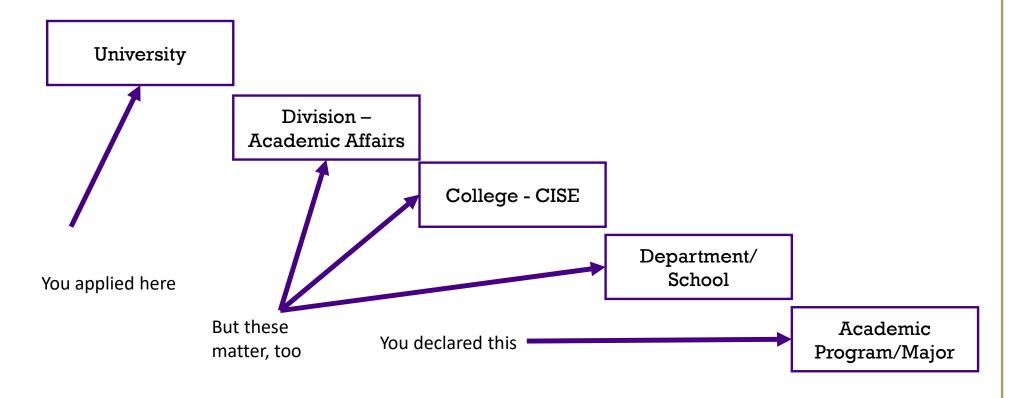
- Hard work is rewarded
- Academics are your job
- Extracurriculars
- Balance fun and school
- Opportunities to learn
- Core requirements & electives

Different

- More freedom
 - Choice of classes/major & more to choose from
 - Nobody dictating time use, class attendance, etc.
- You are responsible for your education



Simplified organizational structure of JMU



CISE Academic Unit Heads



Computer Science Vetria Byrd



Engineering Rob Prins



Integrated Sciences, GEOG & IA Henry Way



Integrated Sciences, ISAT Stephanie Stockwell



CISE majors

- Department of Engineering
 - Engineering
- Department of Computer Science
 - Computer Science
 - Information Technology
- School of Integrated Sciences
 - Geography
 - Intelligence Analysis
 - Integrated Science and Technology
 - Biotechnology (with Biology & Chemistry)



BS Engineering

- A multidisciplinary program designed with input from industry for the 21st century
 - hands-on learning
 - 2-year capstone
 - teamwork
 - ABET-accredited
- Concentrations
 - 1. Electro-Mechanical Systems;
 - 2. Civil and Environmental, and
 - 3. Geo-Environmental.







BS Computer Science

- Study of the design and analysis of algorithms
- Hands-on learning
- Careers:
 - Computer programmer
 - Software developer
 - Data scientist
 - Software engineer







BS Information Technology

- Study of designing, developing, and managing computer-based systems and solutions
- hands-on learning
- capstone
- less theory of computing & more system administration skills
- Careers:
 - System Administrator
 - Computer programmer
 - IT project manager





BS Geography

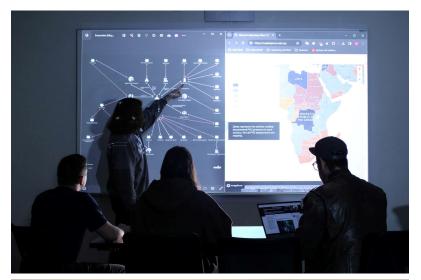
- Study of earth, its environment, its people and relationship between people and places
- Concentrations
 - 1. Applied GIS,
 - 2. Environmental Conservation, and
 - 3. Sustainability and Development.
- Careers:
 - Geospatial intelligence analysts
 - Geographic information scientists
 - Urban and regional planners
 - Forest and wildlife managers
 - Climatologists and meteorologists





BS Intelligence Analysis

- Using technology to collect information about a topic, analyze and present it to a decision maker
- Capstone experience
- Close connections with federal government intelligence agencies
- Careers:
 - Intelligence Analyst working for a federal government agency (e.g., FBI, CIA, DIA, and NSA)
 - Law enforcement
 - Financial institutions







BS Integrated Science & Technology (ISAT)

- A unique JMU program teaching science and technology in an integrated fashion
- Systems thinking
- Capstone experience
- ABET-accredited

Concentrations:

- 1. applied biotech,
- 2. energy,
- 3. environment and sustainability,
- 4. industrial and manufacturing systems,
- 5. public interest technology, and
- 6. applied computing.







What we ask of you

- Make academics your priority
- Bring your best effort
- Push yourself beyond your comfort zone
- Work with others with humility



Choosing majors and minors

- You can change majors at any time Let your interests and your strengths guide you
- Some students choose to double-major or add one or more minors
- Plan ahead: prerequisite structures limit flexibility
- Admissions standards
 - Computer Science
 - Engineering
 - Intelligence Analysis

```
an March B.A.
an Anthrospi Delon Maior B.P.A.
                   45.33
45.333
                                Bhasing Johnje Belg Hill Bood Blassing, J.S.
Bhasing Midde (John Bhasing, J.S.
Bhasing Swopley, Jihaning, J.S.
Bhasing Special Bhasing, J.S.
                                Estam B-8-6
                                      Coppel Education The House Communit
Coppel Production BA
Special 25 (1974)

Descript 24 (1974)

Descript vollation 1, 2, 10 (cont.) in the property of the property of
```



Small Group Discussion

What are you most worried about as you embark on your university journey?



Small Group Discussion

What's your plan for overcoming the challenge that's worrying you the most?



BEING THE CHANGE.

JMU: A Research Intensive University that thinks of itself as a Liberal Arts College

- Learning Centers (Science & Math Learning Center; Writing Center, Communication Center, Peer Assisted Study Sessions)
- Learning Success Strategies
- Counseling Center
- Office of Disability Services
- Madison Advising Peers
- Dean of Students
- Center for First Generation Students
- Center for Multicultural Student Services
- Community Engagement and Volunteer Center





What you can expect in CISE

- Small class sizes in the major
- State-of-the-art equipment and facilities open to undergrads
- Faculty with a passionate commitment to outstanding education
- High-impact teaching practices
 - Active learning
 - Hands-on activities
 - Traditional lectures
 - Team-based learning



Complex Real-world Problems

- United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Job-ready technical skills
- Hands-on learning
- Teamwork
- User-centered design

































Opportunities

- Undergraduate Research
 - Undergraduate Research Journal
 - Conference travel
- Study abroad/away: CISE programs from Costa Rica to Australia to Germany to Malta and more





Preparing you to succeed...with many options!

- Variety of paths after graduation
 - Jobs with Businesses or Government
 - Graduate School
 - Start-up Companies
 - Service Work Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.
- We help you in this process
 - CISE Industrial Partnership Program (IPP)
 - CISE Career and Internship Fairs
 - University Career Center





Questions? O JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY.