

12:10pm - 12:30pm



An Invitation to IT and Computer Science

Hussein Suleman < hussein@cs.uct.ac.za>

Head of Department, Department of Computer Science
Acting Director, School of IT
University of Cape Town

22 May 2021

Last edited: 22 May 2021

Slide count: 16

Our Current Changing Society 1/2





Hisense 8 GB U605 Network...

ZAR 499.00

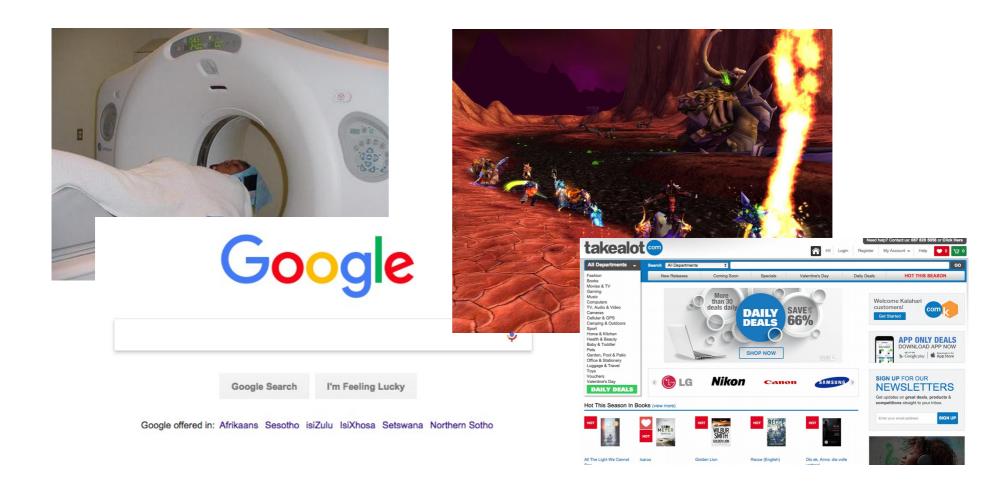








Our Current Changing Society 2/2







IT in a Future World

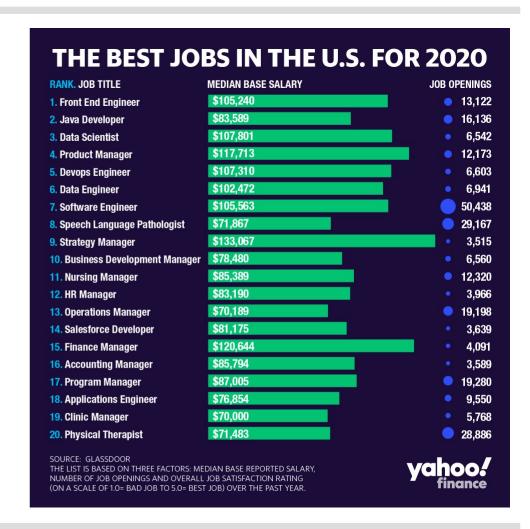






Why Study IT?

- □ Change the world!
- Be happy.
- Be excited.
- Stability/Job security.
- Lots of growth opportunities.
- Make money.
- Get famous.
- Study further or teach.
- Complement something else.
 - Something for fun; something for a career.



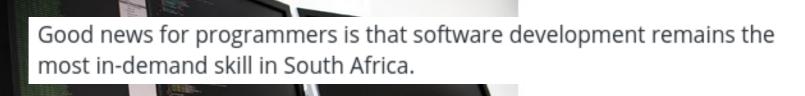




What about jobs in South Africa?

Software developer salaries in South Africa in 2021

Staff Writer 18 May 2021



Intermediate Software Development Salaries (CTC)				
Region	From	То		
Gauteng	R48,442	R65,604		
Western Cape	R45,012	R56,685		
KwaZulu-Natal	R42,755	R55,882		

https://mybroadband.co.za/news/business/397239-software-developer-salaries-in-south-africa-in-2021.html





What does an IT graduate do?

- □ Not just sitting in a dark room by a terminal
- Learn by doing
- Variety
- Helping people
- Entrepreneurial
- □ No single career/degree





5 Branches of IT

- Computer Science
 - Foundations and principles (software/algorithms)
- □ Information Systems
 - Business processes and information-centric applications
- Software Engineering
 - Software development processes
- □ Information Technology
 - Applications of hardware and software
- Computer Engineering
 - Hardware and communications





IT @ UCT

- □ School of IT
 - Department of Computer Science
 - □ BSc/BBusSci/BA degrees in Computer Science
 - Department of Information Systems
 - □ BCom/BBusSci/BA degrees in Information Systems
- Other departments
 - Department of Electrical Engineering (Engineering Faculty)
 - □ BSc (Eng) in ElecEng or Computer Engineering





What is Computer Science?

- □ Computer Science (CS) is the study of:
 - Computer software
 - Algorithms, abstractions and efficiency
 - Theoretical foundation for computation
- □ What you learn in a Computer Science degree:
 - Principles of computation
 - How to make machines perform complex tasks
 - How to program a computer
 - What current technology exists and how to use it
 - Problem solving





Computer Science @UCT topics

- □ First year
 - □ Problem solving and programming in Python
 - Object-oriented design in Java
- Second year
 - □ Data structures, databases, human-computer interaction, parallel computing, computer architecture, software engineering
- □ Third year
 - □ Operating systems, networks, algorithms, advanced software engineering, (C++, machine learning)
- Honours
 - □ Compilers, functional programming, research and innovation, AI, HCI, big data, games/graphics, network security, ...





Why Study CS @ UCT

- □ Degree accredited by British Computer Society (international curriculum).
- CS department ranked highest in country.
- □ Innovative teaching (research-led, constant curriculum revisions, etc.).
- □ Diverse staff interests.
- □ Enthusiastic staff and students!



So what degrees are Computer Science?

- □ BSc with a major in Computer Science
- □ BBusSci with a specialization in CS
- BCom with a specialization in IS+CS
- □ BA with a major in Computer Science



What do I need to get into CS?

- □ Meet points score for admissions.
- □ High school Mathematics!
 - 70% in NSC
- □ 60% in Physics or IT if you want a BSc
 - otherwise you can get a BBusSci, BCom (IS+CS) or BA (CS)
- □ Everything else we will teach you.
- □ No Matric IT needed!
 - Seriously, we can teach this stuff better :)





What should I apply for (CS or IS)?

Focus on algorithms and software	Combined focus on algorithms + business	Focus on business and information systems	CS + Science/ Math	IS + Humanities	CS + Humanities
1 st : BSc(CS)	BBusSci(CS/IS) BCom(IS+CS) BSc(CS+IS)	1 st : BCom(IS)	BSc	BA Informatics	BSc / BA
2 nd : BBusSci(CS)		2 nd : BBusSci(IS)			



Thank you for listening!



If you have questions:

Attend the Science Q&A session 12.35-12.55

Chat with me online today (2.30pm-3.00pm): https://jitsi.cs.uct.ac.za/OpenDay2021

Visit the School of IT website: http://www.sit.uct.ac.za/