UMSL is a NSA/DHS National Center of Excellence in Cyber Defense Education

Three available options:
1. Traditional computer science
2. Certificate – requires completion of a graduate certificate and a set of courses
3. Professional – with potential experience credit (pending tentative start FS2020)

Required 30 hours (10 courses) including core and elective courses at 4-thousand (4xxx) level and above. Up to 3 courses may be transferred if credited at the graduate level.

A required course may be waived based on prior graduate or undergraduate coursework or experience, and be substituted with an elective. One elective at 6xxx level is required – each 6xxx course has a prerequisite offered in the preceding semester which should be taken as an elective (or waived). At most 12 hours (4 courses) can be counted at the 4xxx level. Admission is possible with up to 3 missing admission requirement courses, based on GPA and other criteria, with corresponding restrictions. Such restrictions must be lifted by passing the assigned courses as specified in the admission letter; those courses do not count toward the program requirements.

Restrictions can also be lifted prior to starting the program, or after, if the required knowledge is proven (transcripts with similar courses) or demonstrated (knowledge of the corresponding topics). Interested applicants can also contact the Graduate Director prior to admission decision with such additional information to assess their fulfillment of the entry requirements.

Any restriction must be completed within the first semester, or a year if allowed by the Graduate Director. Graduate students must also attend five departmental colloquia before graduation. The department offers a limited number of graduate teaching assistantships, students can apply for these with admission application. In addition, individual faculty may offer research assistantships.

**Entry requirement. Restriction if admitted without.**
Required in all options
Elective or required
Additionally required in the traditional option
Additionally required in the certificate option
Additionally required in the professional option

**Prerequisite**
A is prerequisite to B means A must be passed or transferred before taking B.
C is prerequisite (may be taken concurrent) to D means that C must be taken before D or in the same semester.