Research: Fun to do, tough to explain to parents

Some individuals just know what they want their futures to look like. Middler Nick Rioux is one of those people. He entered Northeastern as a computer science major, knowing that somehow, he wanted to do research. And that's exactly what he's been doing since the second or third week of his first semester.

Luckily, he found himself in the perfect place to begin when his first classes started. His Fundamentals of Computer Science course was taught by Professor Amal Ahmed, who agreed to help Nick and a friend begin to explore the research world.

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CCIS Meaningful Minors Program Explores Interdisciplinary Approach to Computer Science

Computer science is applicable to virtually any field, ranging from journalism and economics to healthcare. And to ensure that Northeastern students have the opportunity to graduate with the skills necessary for an increasingly digital world, CCIS launched its CCIS Meaningful Minors program this semester.

“We developed this program because we believe every student should graduate college with the computer science skills they need to succeed in the highly digital 21st century,” writes CCIS Dean Carla Brodley.

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CCIS Alumna takes Northeastern lessons to University College London

Emine Yilmaz earned her Ph.D. in computer science at Northeastern in 2008. Now, she’s an associate professor at University College London (UCL) in London. And though she’s moved an ocean away and gone from attending classes to shaping and leading them, she’s taken the lessons - and lesson styles - from Northeastern with her.

“I feel like I’m advertising [Javed Aslam], but really, I think he’s the best teacher I’ve seen,” Emine says, laughing. Aslam was Emine’s advisor and collaborator on several research projects and publications. “I really try to take him as a role model. He would make very complicated things look very simple in the way he would describe the ideas behind it, giving real world examples.”

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