

Undergraduate Curriculum Handbook 2018

I. Undergraduate Programmes – an overview

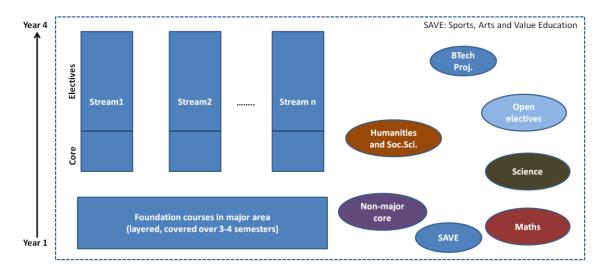
1.0. Introduction

There are two types of programmes offered at the undergraduate level: *single* degree and *dual* degree. The single degree programmes require completing a minimum of 160 to 161 credits while the dual degree programmes require completing 176 or 177 credits and *defending a research thesis*.

In addition to structured courses offered within the Institute, students can opt to learn in few other modes, with approval from academic office. These include *Independent study* and *Semester project* under Institute faculty supervision; courses offered outside of the Institute under platforms such as SWAYAM/MOOC/NPTEL or University of Hyderabad.

The rest of this document is structured as follows. Sections II and III give an overview of the single and dual degree programmes, including the credit requirements. Sections IV and V provide a detailed description of these programmes.

The curriculum design that spans all our undergraduate programmes is as shown below. The first two years lays foundations for the discipline while the next two years allows students flexibility to pursue subjects of interests in different streams. Every programme has a good mixture of courses from the core discipline (or major area) and from other areas to impart a balanced education.



The curriculum for a dual degree programme prepares students to do research in a graded manner, with four research projects starting from year 3 culminating in a *research thesis* in the final (fifth) year.

2.0. Single degree programmes

Students in this programme can earn a *Bachelor of Technology (BTech)* degree in one the following disciplines upon completing a minimum of the number of credits indicated:

- Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) minimum credit requirement is 160.
- Electronics and Communication Engineering degrees (ECE) minimum credit requirement is 161.

2.1. BTech (in CSE or ECE) programmes

These have a common curricular structure which is described below.

- 72 credits for CSE and 73 credits for ECE in the respective core programmes
- 12 credits in Sports, Arts and Value Education
 - 4 credits from each of the three subjects
- 16 credits each in Maths and Science
- 20 Credits in Humanities and Social Science
 - o 2 courses (2 credits each) in Ethics
- 4 credits of BTech Project
- 20 credits from any discipline/area (open electives) at 400 level or above

Earning of credits via independent study, project and sources outside of the Institute is restricted to the open electives category. While a student can earn any number of credits in this manner, only 8 such credits can be counted towards the graduation requirement.

2.2. BTech (Honours) degree:

Students with a strong academic record can choose to earn a *BTech degree with Honours*. Under this option, a student can gain an in-depth knowledge in a stream by choosing appropriate set of electives and doing 4 projects. The student has to choose this option at the end of the 2nd year (4th semester). Students are attached to a research centre and assigned a faculty to provide advice on the electives to be completed, assign and supervise projects.

A BTech (Honours) degree requires a **minimum of 164 credits** of which 8 credits are to be earned as four, 2-credit honours projects between the 5th and 8th semesters.

3.0. Dual degree programmes:

Students in this programme can earn two degrees, namely, *BTech* and a *Master of Science* (MS) degree. The MS degree requires completing 24 thesis credits and 2 seminar credits. Currently offered programmes and the minimum number of credits required are as follows:

- BTech in Computer Science and Engineering and MS in Computer Science and Engineering by Research (CSD) minimum credit requirement is 176.
- BTech in Electronics and Communication Engineering and MS in Electronics and Communication Engineering by Research (ECD) minimum credit requirement is 177.
- Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and MS in Computational Linguistics by Research (CLD) minimum credit requirement is 177.
- Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and MS in Computational Natural Sciences by Research (CND) minimum credit requirement is 177.

3.1. CSD and ECD programmes

These two have a common curricular structure as described below.

- 80 credits for CSE and 81 credits for ECE in the respective core programmes
- 12 credits in Sports, Arts and Value Education
 - 4 credits from each of the three subjects
- 16 credits each in Maths and Science
- 20 Credits in Humanities and Social Science
 - 2 courses (2 credits each) in Ethics
- 8 credits of Honors Project
- 20 credits from any discipline/area
- 2 seminar credits
- 1 unit (2 credits) of research writing
- 1 unit of research proposal
- 24 credits of Research thesis

3.2. CND programme

This is broadly structured as follows.

- 61 credits in Computer Science
- 12 credits in Sports, Arts and Value Education
 - o 4 credits from each of the three subjects
- 60 credits in Computational Natural Science
- 16 credits in Maths
- 12 credits in Humanities and Social Science
- 8 credits from any discipline
- 8 credits in honours project
- 2 seminar credits
- 1 unit (2 credits) of research writing
- 1 unit of research proposal
- 24 credits of Research thesis

3.3. CLD programme

This is broadly structured as follows.

- 57 credits in Computer Science
- 12 credits in Sports, Arts and Value Education
 - 4 credits from each of the three subjects
- 48 credits in Computational Linguistics
- 16 credits each in Maths, Science and Humanities & Social Science
- 12 credits from any discipline
- 8 credits in honours project
- 2 seminar credits
- 1 unit (2 credits) of research writing
- 1 unit of research proposal
- 24 credits of Research thesis

II. Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

The curriculum for CSE is prepared keeping in mind the pace of change in computing as a discipline. Computing now is affecting many domains including the natural sciences, materials and humanities in a big way. It is therefore imperative that the curriculum offers a student the scope to acquire fundamental knowledge quickly and the ability to specialize in some particular subject domain.

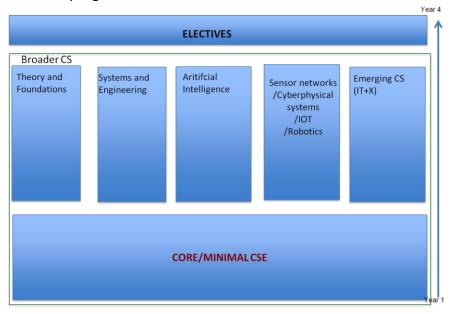
IIIT Hyderabad strives to impart education that does not simply train students get their first employment but rather trains students to be thought-leaders in their respective domains. Doing so requires a curriculum with flexibility that allows individual students to focus on their strengths and interests and customize it within some constraints. At the same time, the curriculum needs to have a minimal core/foundation that helps students in making informed choices going forward.

The curriculum has a set of 52 credits in Computer Science in the first four semesters. The courses in the first four semesters cover programming, data structures, algorithms, circuits, computer systems, operating systems, computer networks, database systems, and software engineering. These equip the students with the basics of the discipline, prepare them for problem-solving, and include lots of hands-on projects. By the end of these courses, students will be able to create systems that are requirement and process driven, version-controlled, talk over the network, prepare SQL queries, and are usable. Indeed, IIIT Hyderabad has a history of using several such systems.

To create a good synergy between CS and ECE, within these credits, we also recommend handson courses in EECS. Through these courses, students will be able to build simple systems that can bring together several aspects of EECE such as sensors, converters, decision making/feedback, communication, and the like. The remaining 6 credits in the minimal CS is driven by two credit courses that prepare them for depth in a broad area. These courses therefore serve to introduce the required body of knowledge across 8 courses (of 2 credits each).

The curriculum across semesters 5 through 8 is largely elective driven. Students are encouraged to do five courses (20 credits) in Computer Science apart from other open choice credits, science courses, and courses in humanities. The five courses in Computer Science can be from one subject area such as AI or be spread across several areas depending on the interests of the individual student. These courses can be also from other applied domains such as computational science or building science. We consider that every student will do at least one course from the Theory bouquet and at least one course from the Systems bouquet. It is therefore considered that 18 courses adding up to 72 credits plus a 4 credit B. Tech. Project is the minimal CS requirement. This layer of 76 credits is appropriate for students wanting to specialize in domains outside of CS. Most CSE students will be encouraged to do additional CSE credits.

The structure of the CSE programme is shown below.



Requirements for a BTech degree in CSE:

A. Maths requirement (16 credits): 4 core courses mandatory for all students.

Core Maths courses

Course Name	Semester	Credits
Discrete Structures	Semester 1	4
Real Analysis	Semester 1	4
Linear algebra	Semester 2	4
Probability and random processes	Semester 3	4
Total Credits		

B. <u>Science</u> requirement (16 credits): 2 core + 2 elective courses

Core Science courses

Course Name	Semester	Credits
Science 1	Semester 3	4
Science 2	Semester 6	4
Total Credits		

C. <u>Humanities and Social Science</u>s (HSS) requirement (20 credits): 2 core + 2 elective courses

Core HSS Science courses

Course Name	Semester	Credits
Intro to Human Sciences	Semester 4	4
Ethics -1	Semester 7	2
Ethics-2	Semester 8	2
Total Credits		

D. <u>Institute core</u> requirement (12 credits): 4 credits each in Sports, Arts and Value education

Course Name	Semester	Credits
Sports	Semesters 1 through 4	4
Arts	Semesters 1 and 2	4
Value education	Semesters1 and 4	4
Total Credits		

E. <u>Programme core</u> requirement: These are to be completed in the first 4 semesters. The list of programme core courses is as below.

Core courses in the CSE Programme: (53 credits)

Monsoon	Course title	Credits	Spring	Course title	Credits
	Computer Programming	5		Introduction to Embedded Systems	3
				Introduction to Software Systems	2
Sem 1	Digital Systems and Microcontrollers	5	Sem 2	Data Structures and Algorithms	5
			Computer Systems Organization	4	
	Sub-total	10 Sub-total		14	
Total					24
	Design and Analysis of Software Systems	4		Introduction to Databases	2
	Algorithm Analysis and Design	4		Automata Theory	2
Sem 3	Computer Systems Engineering - 1	4	Sem 4	Machine, Data and	4
	Embedded Systems Workshop	2		Learning	4
	Sub-total	14		Sub-total	8
Total				20	

6. <u>Programme Breadth Elective</u> Courses: These are to be completed in the semesters 4 or 6 or 8. Each student does three Breadth Elective Courses each of two credits. These courses are also categorized into two classes: Theory/Foundations and Systems/Applications. The indicative list of courses in each category is given below.

Theory/Foundation:

- 1. Introduction to Program Verification
- 2. Introduction to Information Security
- 3. Introduction to Coding Theory

Systems/Applications

- 1. Introduction to NLP
- 2. Digital Signal Applications
- 3. Autonomous Systems
- 4. Usability and Human-Computer Interaction
- 7. Other programme requirements: 40 credits in electives + 4 credits of BTech project.

After the foundations built via core courses in the first two semesters, CSE curriculum permits a student the flexibility to pursue their interests via electives in the last two years. Of the 40 credits in electives, a minimum of 20 credits has to be earned in the core CSE programme *bouquet core courses* while the rest (20 credits) can be earned via courses from across disciplines including those from CSE.

CSE bouquet core courses are organized into *five streams*, with each stream consisting of introductory as well as advanced level courses. Courses in this category are usually offered at least once every year.

The five categories and indicative courses in each category are listed below.

- 1. *Theory/Foundations*: Advanced Algorithms, Optimization Methods, Programming Languages, Modern Information Security
- 2. *Systems*: Advanced Computer Networks, Advanced Database Systems, Distributed Systems, Compilers, Software Engineering
- 3. *AI*: Information Retrieval, Data Warehousing and Data mining, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, Advanced NLP
- 4. EECS: Sensor Networks, Robotics, Cyber-physical Systems, Internet-of-Things
- 5. *Emerging CS/IT for X*: Select Courses from Computational Natural Science, Building Science, etc. will be included in this stream.

BTech (Honours) requirement:

- 4 honours projects in Sem 5 through 8
- At least three bouquet electives from ONE bouquet, as per the concurrence of the honors advisor, that closely matches the chosen honours stream.

<u>BTech project (4 credits)</u>: This is to be done as 2-credit projects each in Semesters 6 and 7, preferably on the same topic.

Requirements for BTech in CSE and MS in CSE by research (CSD):

CSD requirement is similar to the CSE requirement with the following additional requirements.

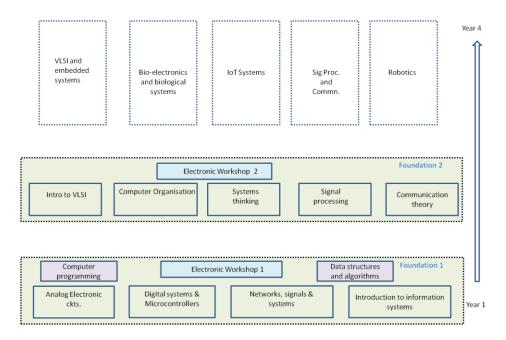
- 4 additional (honours) project credits
- 8 credits of electives
- 2 credits of research seminars
- 2 credits of research writing workshop
- 2 credits of research proposal
- 24 credits of research thesis

III. Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)

ECE is an old engineering discipline and is an integral part of modern field of Information Technology. Advances in hardware and embedded computing have become key enablers for communication over land, sea and space; robotics and quantum computing. From medical devices to Internet of Things (IoT) to distributed computing and storage, today's information systems straddle scale and space in a hitherto unseen manner. Recently, development of high performance processors with novel architectures has been harnessed for deep learning leading to a resurgence of Artificial Intelligence. Overall, the boundary between disciplines CSE and ECE is increasingly fluid. The robust theoretical framework ECE offers to understand systems is also finding place in modeling of complex biological systems.

The ECE curriculum has been designed keeping these in mind. In addition to the core discipline it has components from a range of domains such as maths, science, required for analysis and modeling; as well as humanities and social sciences, to help understand and navigate the world where technology is playing an increasing role.

A schematic of the broad structure of the ECE curriculum is given below. The curriculum has two levels of core courses serving to build the foundations of the ECE discipline. These cover basics in hardware (electronics to vlsi) and communication (networks to systems thinking). This is also supported by foundations in computing (programming to computer organization). The foundations are followed by a set of stream-based electives that permits students to build deeper knowledge in specific streams. The streams span established and emerging areas and are designed to cater to interests in theory/analysis or applications/design.



Requirements for a BTech degree in ECE:

A. Maths requirement (16 credits): 3 core + 1 elective courses

Core Maths courses

Real Analysis	Semester 1
Linear algebra	Semester 2
Probability and random processes	Semester 3

B. <u>Science</u> requirement (16 credits): 2 core + 2 elective courses

Core Science courses

Science 1	Semester 3
- scientific method, the micro and the macro principles of Natural	
phenomena	
Science 2	Semester 6
- electromagnetism, applications of classical and quantum mechanics	

C. <u>Humanities and Social Science</u>s (HSS) requirement (20 credits): 2 core + 2 elective courses

Core HSS Science courses

Intro to Human Sciences (4 credits)	Semester 4
Ethics -1 (2 credits)	Semester 7
Ethics-2 (2 credits)	Semester 8

D. <u>Institute core</u> requirement (12 credits): 4 credits each in Sports, Arts and Value education

Sports (4 credits)	Semesters 1 through 4
Arts (4 credits)	Semesters 1 and 2
Value education (4 credits)	Semesters1 and 4

E. <u>Programme core</u> requirement: These are to be completed in the first 4 semesters. The list of programme core courses is as below.

Core courses in the ECE Programme: (53 credits)

Monsoon	Course title	Credits	Spring	Course title	Credits
	Network Signals and Systems	4		Analog Electronic Circuits	5
Sem 1	Digital Systems and Microcontrollers 5	Sem 2	Data structures and algorithms	5	
Jeni 1	Computer Programming	5	5	Introduction to	4
	Electronic workshop 1	2		information systems	
	Sub total	16		Sub total	14

Monsoon	Course title	Credits	Spring	Course title	Credits	
	Introduction to VLSI	4		Introduction to computer system organization	2	
Sem 3	Signal processing	5 Sem 4	Electronic workshop 2	4		
	Systems thinking	4		Communication theory	4	
	Sub total	13		Sub total	10	

F. Other programme requirements: 40 credits in electives + 4 credits of BTech project.

After the foundations built via core courses in the first two semesters, ECE curriculum permits a student the flexibility to pursue their interests via electives in the last two years. Of the 40 credits in electives, a minimum of 20 credits has to be earned in the core ECE programme while the rest (20 credits) can be earned via courses from across disciplines.

<u>ECE electives</u> are organized into 5 *streams*, with each stream consisting of introductory as well as advanced level courses. The offerings at the advanced level can change from time to time.

- 1. VLSI and embedded systems
- 2. Bio-electronics and biological systems
- 3. IoT systems
- 4. Signal processing and communications
- 5. Robotics

The following is the requirement for different type of students.

General student

- 1 foundation level course from any two of the following 3 streams: i) VLSI& embedded systems, ii) Sig proc& commn and iii) Robotics. (Total of 8 credits)
- 1 elective at any level from any of the 5 streams
- At least 2 electives at the advanced level from any of the 5 streams. (Total of 12 credits)

Honours* student

- 2 foundation level courses + 2 advanced level course from 1 stream
- 1 introductory level in any other stream

Dual degree* student

- 4 electives should preferably be from one stream
- 1 elective from any other stream

^{*} Any change needs the approval of the advisor and the programme coordinator

<u>BTech project (4 credits)</u>: This is to be done as 2-credit projects each in Semesters 6 and 7, preferably on the same topic.

Requirements for BTech in ECE and MS in ECE by Research (ECD):

ECD requirements are the same as ECE curriculum with the following additional requirements;

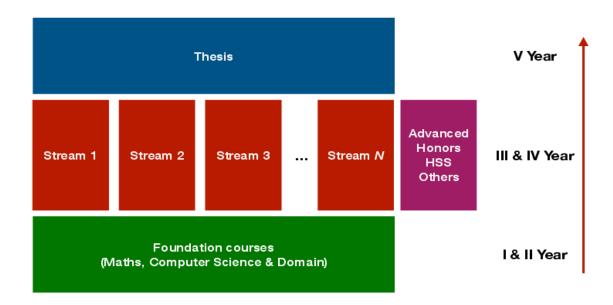
- 4 additional (honours) project credits
- 8 credits of electives
- 2 credits of research seminars
- 2 credits of research writing workshop
- 2 credits of research proposal
- 24 credits of research thesis

IV. Dual degree programme in Computational Natural Sciences (CND)

This dual degree program is designed to impart the young minds high-quality education both in computer science and in emerging areas in computational natural sciences and eventually to 'Computational Thinking' empowered research in natural sciences; primary goals are:

- a. Providing state of the art skills pertaining to application of computers and computational sciences;
- b. Enabling young students to carry out research activities in several new and emerging multidisciplinary areas in sciences across the boundaries of the traditional scientific disciplines, e.g., interface of biology and nano materials, fluid dynamics, material science, networks (biological, social, epidemiology, etc.,), statistical mechanics, quantum mechanics/chemistry, structure function relationships of biological molecules, drug design, etc.; Special courses are designed to offer a multidisciplinary view in this broad research area. Students receive a basic training in all disciplines, and choose a specialization within one of these disciplines;
- c. Providing an environment with coming together of computer and computational scientists with domain specialists, both theoretical as well as experimental

General Structure



With these goals in mind, the programme has the following structure:

- Core/foundational topics in math, and science domain, in addition to computer sciences are
- covered in the beginning four/five semesters
- Advanced courses in specific streams of interest (from the fifth year) and honors projects will lay the ground for research work
- Streams that are planned for this dual degree programme currently are:
 - Computational biology and Systems biology
 - Multi-scale modeling
 - Nanosciences
 - o Quantum Physics
 - Computational Chemistry
- Thesis work on the selected problem start at the end of 8th semester.

The specific academic requirements for the program are as follows:

Requirement Type	Requirement Type Course Name		Credits
	Discrete Structures	I	4
Math CORE	Real Analysis	I	4
Width COIL	Linear Algebra	II	4
	Probability and Statistics	III	4
	Computing in Sciences – I	1	2
	Computing in Sciences- II	II	2
	Classical Mechanics	=	2
	Electrodynamics	II	2
	General and Structural Chemistry	=	4
	Introduction to Biology (I)	III	4
	Science Lab I	III	2
	Quantum Mechanics	III	4
Caianaa Damain CODE	Statistical Mechanics	IV	2
Science Domain CORE	Thermodynamics	IV	2
	Biomolecular Structures	IV	2
	Science Lab II	IV	2
	Organic Chemistry	IV	2
	Spectroscopy	V	2
	Chemical Kinetics	V	2
	Bioinformatics	V	2
	Systems Biology	V	2
	CCNSB Seminars	V, VI, VII, VII	0

Requirement Type	Course Name	Semester	Credits
	Computer Programming	I	5
	Digital Systems and Microcontrollers	ı	5
	Data Structures and Algorithms	II	5
	Introduction to Software Systems	II	4
	Algorithm Analysis and Design	III	4
Computer Sciences CORE	Design, Analysis of Software Systems	III	4
	Computer systems Organization	IV	4
	Intelligent Systems	IV	4
	Automata Theory	IV	2
	Introduction to Database systems	IV	2
	Computer Systems Engineering	V	4
Humanities CORE	Introduction to Human Sciences	VI	4
Others, CORE	Sports, Arts, Value Education	I, II, III, IV	8

The remainder of the courses are electives and Honors projects:

- 1. Humanities electives: 2 courses (8 credits)
- 2. Computer Science electives : 4 courses (16 credits)
- 3. Science Domain electives: 5 courses (20 credits). Additional restriction is that THREE of the FIVE have to be in a PARTICULAR stream and remaining two can be in ANY of the other streams so as to enable student to prepare by taking advanced level courses in the thesis problem, while giving the choice to explore other streams.
- 4. Other electives: 2 to 8 credits
- 5. Technical writing/extra project: 4 credits

Honors projects – 4 courses (8 credits). Project courses enable students to gain practice in working on problems related to or leading directly to thesis work. These projects start after foundational courses in first four semesters, i.e. V, VI, VII and VIII semesters.

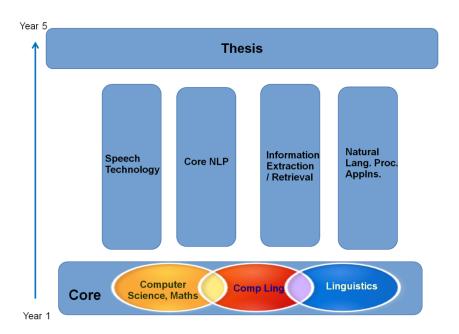
V. Dual degree programme in Computational Linguistics (CLD)

Computational linguistics is a transdisciplinary field of study. It deals with computational modeling of natural language understanding and generation using rule based or statistical methods. The graduates of this programme will work towards developing man - man and manmachine communication systems which include natural language understanding and natural language generation. They can also contribute to the field of linguistics by studying linguistic problems using computational methods. Since the field is inter-disciplinary in nature, an ability to synthesise knowledge from the fields of Computer Science and Linguistics is required. The curriculum for CLD has to equip the students with fundamentals from the following areas:

- a) **Linguistics**: phonetics/Phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, discourse, pragmatics, the relation between language and society etc.
- b) **Computer Science**: programming languages, data structures, algorithm analysis, automata theory, AI, software design etc
- c) **Maths**: Discreet maths, Probability and statistics, calculus, differential equations and matrices,

linear regression, real analysis, abstract algebra etc.

Therefore, the CLD curriculum has a balanced mixture of courses from different fields (Computer Science, Maths, Linguistics, Humanties, Science etc). The total credit requirement is 201 of which 24 are to be from a research thesis. The broad structure of the programme is as shown below.



Details of the requirements for the CLD programme are described next.

1. Maths requirement (16 credits): 4 core

Maths courses

Discrete Structures	Semester 1
Linear algebra	Semester 2
Probability and random processes	Semester 3
Real Analysis	Semester 5

2. Science requirement (8 credits): 2 core

Core Science courses

Science 1 - scientific method, the micro and the macro principles of	Semester 5
Natural phenomena	
Science 2 - electromagnetism, applications of classical and quantum	Semester 6
mechanics	

3. <u>Humanities and Social Science</u>s (HSS) requirement (16 credits): 2 core + 2 elective courses **Core HSS Science courses**

Intro to Human Sciences (4 credits)	Semester 4
Ethics -1 (2 credits)	Semester 7
Ethics-2 (2 credits)	Semester 8

4. <u>Institute core</u> requirement (12 credits): 4 credits each in Sports, Arts and Value education

Sports (4 credits)	Semesters 1 through 4
Arts (4 credits)	Semesters 1 and 2
Value education (4 credits)	Semesters1 and 4

5. <u>Programme core</u> requirement: These are to be completed in the first 5 semesters. The list of programme core courses is as below.

Core courses in the CLD Programme:

Monsoon	Course title	Credits	Spring	Course title	Credits
Sem 1	Introduction to	4		Introduction to	4
	Liguistics-1	4		Linguistics-2	4
	Digital Systems and	5		Data structures and	5
	Microcontrollers		Sem 2	algorithms	
	Computer Programming	5		Computational	4
				Linguistics-1	
				Introduction to Software	2
				Systems	2
				Computer Systems	4
				Organization	4

Monsoon	Course title	Credits	Spring	Course title	Credits
Sem 3	Language and Society	4		Language Typology and Universals	4
	Computational Linguistics-2	4	Sem 4	Introduction to Natural Language Processing	4
				Digital Signal processing	2
	Computer Systems Engineering	4		Automata Theory	2
	Algorithm Analysis and Design	4		Machine, Data and Learning	4
	Design and Analysis of Software Systems	4		Introduction to Database Systems	2
Sem 5	Advance NLP	4			

6. Other programme requirements: credits in electives 48 + 8 credits of Honours projects.

Once the foundation is built via core courses in the first four semesters, the CLD curriculum allows a student the flexibility to pursue choose her/his stream of research and do courses to build the depth in the stream in the last two years. The electives in different streams provide that opportunity. Of the 48 credits in electives, a minimum of 14 credits have to be earned in the domain area, 16 in Computer Science and the rest (18 credits) can be earned via courses from across disciplines.

<u>CLD electives</u> are organized into 4 streams (Figure-1 above), with each stream consisting of introductory as well as advanced level courses. The offerings at the advanced level can change from time to time. Every student is expected to do 3 electives in the chosen stream and the fourth from any other stream. Any change needs the approval of the advisor and the programme coordinator.

<u>Hons projects (8 credits)</u>: This is to be done as 2-credit projects each in Semesters 6 and 7, 8 and 9 preferably on the same topic.

Thesis (24 credits): This is to be done in the fifth year.