

William Gregory Johnson is a PhD candidate in computer science and a Brains and Behavior Neuroscience Institute fellow at Georgia State University. He holds a Master of Science in computer science from Georgia State University in 2004, and a BA of computer science from the University of North Alabama in 1986. He achieved numerous industry certifications in programming, web design, and database architecture. His teaching awards include the outstanding advisor of the year in 2015 and outstanding graduate teaching award in 2019 from Georgia State University.

He is a non-traditional PhD student, Mr. Johnson was a software engineer for over 20 years in practice holding positions of increasing responsibility in the US Government at CDC and Microsoft Corporation along with various computer industry startups. Most recently, he was a computer science instructor at a community-based college. Motivated to teach in a four-year university, he returned to academe to pursue his PhD in computer science. His current research focus is understanding the learning biases in computer science first degree students through using targeted educational big data mining techniques with a goal to increase program retention and successful graduation pathways for minorities.