

# Evolving Program

**Goal:** The program continues to evolve to meet the needs of students and stay relevant with industry.

Feedback is solicited from students by the program advisor, and at the Career Showcase in small group sessions with the instructors and staff. The program head and program manager regularly meet with industry to find out what skills future employees will need.

Changes include:

- Two programming courses migrated to C and C++ instead of Java to better match industry needs and provide a foundation for subsequent courses. The change allowed higher level courses time to cover the material in more depth.
- The Software Projects class replaced an advanced database class in Spring 2013 to give students experience working on a large scope software design project with a team. The “capstone” project requires students to integrate knowledge from several classes (database, web development, software engineering).
- The program continues to add supplemental content to layer multiple types of instructional material, including taped help sessions, tutorials, additional content and lectures.
- A peer mentoring program to improve student retention and foster leadership roles. The peer mentors will act as community facilitators to help foster good communication.