Student Originated Software
Program Prerequisites and Experience Profile
2001-2002

From the web site, www.evergreen.edu/sos : Prerequisites for this program include the Evergreen program "Data to Information", or equivalent (which includes a strong grounding in computer science, i.e., the ability to program well in at least one programming language, an understanding of data structures, computer architecture and operating systems, and at least a rudimentary understanding of object-oriented programming). In addition and perhaps most important, students must demonstrate an ability to work independently to learn new technologies, a strong desire to learn about professional software development, and a willingness to work collaboratively on a group software project.

1. Prerequisite knowledge and ability in computer science.
   The prerequisites for the program are 36-48 credit hours of introductory, college-level computer science (or equivalent). At Evergreen, satisfactory completion of either "Data to Information" or "Computability and Cognition", the equivalent from another college or working experience, will work.
   We will want to know whether you actually learned how to program during the course of taking those classes, so we will ask for a sample of your programming work. If we interview students prior to signing you in, we may also ask you to explain certain aspects of this program, or to solve a small problem.
   You should select a sample of your work of which you are proud, and you should be able to explain clearly what the program does, how it works, and what changes you would make to it if you had time to go back and make changes. If this was the result of a group project, you should be able to explain your part in the project.
2. Proficiency in at least one computer programming language - this does not include HTML.
3. Motivation to complete a group project in software engineering, and to master software engineering skills.
   Knowing how to program is only one part of being a productive member of a software engineering team; one also needs the motivation to work collaboratively with others, the drive to bring a project (perhaps one for a customer) to completion, and the willingness to learn new technology and ways of expressing that technology to others.

To gain entry to the program, you must have junior standing and demonstrate to faculty that you fulfil the above prerequisites. In some circumstances faculty will waive the requirement of junior level standing. To demonstrate your expertise to faculty, write a short (1-3 pages) essay to faculty addressing your previous training, expertise and motivation with respect to the above three questions. For #2, you should include an example of a program you have written, and of which you are proud.