

8 November 2021

Hi CS Students,

I am excited to see the overwhelming enthusiasm for learning Computer Science! There has been an extraordinarily high number of requests for courses in Spring 2022.

I know that for those of you who haven't had the chance yet to register, there is some concern about availability of classes, and questions about what to do. I strongly advise you to do two things.

The first, and very important, is please add yourself to the waitlist for any course that you intend on enrolling in the spring, even if the waitlist size seems large. The department uses this information to know which courses need more seats, and how many.

The second is to not panic. The department will be working through the registration process to make sure that everyone is able to make sufficient progress toward completing your program on time for graduation. For the seniors, this of course means graduating this year, and for juniors, sophomores and freshmen this means staying on track. Due to the way that the enrollment system works, the solutions we come up with to add more seats will not be in place until shortly after the preregistration period. Please continue to check in on your registration status throughout the Fall semester, and if you are still not enrolled in the classes that you need by the end of the semester, do not hesitate to reach out before leaving for winter break.

Finally, I have a piece of advice regarding balance. CS courses, especially those in the 300+ range, are some of the most technically challenging courses on campus. To fully engage with the material and do well in the courses, it is vital that you have enough time in your weekly schedule. It is generally necessary to take 2-3 courses each semester, depending on the program, to maintain progress. However, taking any more than three 300+ CS courses in a single semester is likely to be challenging. If you have concerns about your progress, please schedule an appointment with your major advisor as soon as possible to discuss options.

Thank you all, and have a great rest of your semester!

Best, Steve La Fleur slafleu@emory.edu

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