

## Computer Science and Computer Science I Information and Guidelines

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Class Schedule is on my office door

### *General*

CS and CS I, programming courses in Java, are open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors. While there are no specific prerequisites, backgrounds in math and science are helpful. These are upper level courses designed for students who can do independent work. The courses will require additional work in the computer center beyond allotted class time to complete homework.

### **Computer Science (CS) vs. Computer Science I (CS I)**

Computer Science is a half credit course with minimal homework. Generally, you will be able to get your assignments completed within class time. Reading the text and studying for tests is done outside of class. The class meets four times per week, with a “drop day” on Wednesday. Computer Science I is a full credit course with a regular amount of homework. Often there will be homework that goes beyond the CS level assignment, and will require additional time to complete outside of class. The class meets five days per week, with no “drop day”.

Both classes are letter-graded (“A”, “B”, etc.) and have essentially the same tests and final exam. The classes meet concurrently. Your academic schedule indicates whether you are in CS or CS I. There is *no difference* between the courses in terms of qualifying for the Advanced Placement Computer Science course, should you desire further study in the subject.

### *Assignments*

Assignments are due at the beginning of each class. You may earn full, partial, or no credit for each assignment submitted. If an assignment is not turned in on time and no special arrangements have been made, no credit is given, i.e., **assignments cannot be turned in late and cannot be made up.** You are responsible for the completion of all assignments and material covered in class, even if you were absent on the day(s) concerned.

You are not expected to successfully complete all assignments. Some may prove too difficult, you may not have enough time, or you may simply elect to skip a particular day. However, since assignments cannot be made up, it is best to submit at least some evidence of effort for partial credit.

### *Tests and Grades*

Tests are given periodically, two or three times each quarter. If at least five tests are given in the semester, the instructor *may* elect to drop the lowest score for each student. A final exam is given at the end of the semester; this is weighted from 15% to 30% of the test average. Neither tests nor the final exam affect the homework grade. (Note: In lieu of the final exam, students may elect to do a project. This will be explained further in class.)

*All tests and the final are open book, i.e., you may use any books or materials you wish, except (a) another human and (b) a computer. Materials may be copied among students, but may not be shared during the tests.*

Grades are determined by the test average and the homework average (see grade sheet). Students may confidentially see their grades at any time on the network. Any discrepancies between what you think your grade is and what is shown on the disk should be reported to me as soon as possible.

Also, please read and understand the separate network policy sheets.