

Course Planning Specifics: Computer Science

The Computer Science introductory curriculum emphasizes program design; as part of this focus, the order in which languages are introduced is Racket/Scheme, followed by Java and then C/C++. CS majors can follow one of two paths into the CS curriculum. The choice of which path to take should be based on the student's prior programming experience:

Most students should take: [CS 1101](#) Introduction to Program Design (offered in Terms A and C), followed by [CS 2102](#) Object-Oriented Design Concepts (offered in Terms B and D)

Students having substantial previous programming experience (e.g. AP credit in computer science) are encouraged to consider: [CS 1102](#) Accelerated Introduction to Program Design (offered in Term A only), followed by [CS 2102](#) Object-Oriented Design Concepts (offered in Terms B and D). CS 1102 covers the 7 weeks of material in CS 1101 in the first 3 ½ weeks, therefore, CS 1102 moves twice as fast as the pace of CS 1101. *It's important to consider your learning style, even with AP credit, to determine if CS 1102 is best for you. Students are encouraged to view the [FAQs](#) and/or contact the CS department at undergraduate@cs.wpi.edu if they need help assessing their readiness for CS1102.*

Students considering computer science as a major should plan to complete CS2102 by the end of the first year. Those students wishing to pursue the major at a more aggressive pace may consider taking as many as four CS courses the first year: [CS 1101](#) or [CS 1102](#) in Term A, [CS 2102](#) in Term B, are encouraged. The rest of the year is rounded out with four math classes and a combination of science, humanities and arts and GPS. Click [here](#) for the degree requirements for Computer Science.

Example of a typical course schedule for your first two terms

<u>A term</u>	<u>B term</u>
CS	CS
MA	MA
GPS/HU/Science	GPS/HU/Science
PE (optional)	PE (optional)

Course Planning Worksheet: Computer Science

Math Placement Test Result: _____ AP/IB/Transfer Credit: _____

Abbreviation Key for Course Planning Tracker:

- **GPS** = Great Problems Seminar
- **HU**= Humanities Course (includes AB, AR, CN, EN, GN, HI, HU, INTL, ISE, MU, PY, RE, SP, TH, WR)
- **SS** = Social Science Course (includes ECON, ENV, GOV, PSY, SD, SOC, SS)
- **BB** = Biology Course
- **PH**= Physics Course
- **CH**= Chemistry Course

Any courses marked with an asterisk (*) are optional programs, and can be taken in addition to the three courses.

Please Note: The Great Problems Seminars are a two term sequence course. They are also **linked**. This means that when registering for a GPS course in A term, you must register for its second half in B term.

<u>A Term Selections</u>	<u>(Include CRN)</u>	<u>B Term Selections</u>	<u>(Include CRN)</u>
CS 1101/1102		CS 2102	
Math		Math	
GPS, HU, Science		GPS, HU, Science	
*Physical Education (1/12 credit unit)		*Physical Education (1/12 credit unit)	
*Military Science (Must be affiliated with an ROTC unit)		*Military Science (Must be affiliated with an ROTC unit)	
Back-ups		Back-ups	