



University Council

January 10, 2025

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2024-2025

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Ella Colker

Graduate Student Representative – William Walker

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Engineering and the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences to revise the Entrance Requirements of the major in Computer Science (B.S.) will be an agenda item for the January 17, 2025, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu

Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH OR CHANGE THE ENTRANCE STATUS AND REQUIREMENTS OF AN UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR

Date: 08/26/2024

School/College: College of Engineering
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department Division: School of Computing

Program (Major and Degree): Computer Science (B.S.)

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2025

1. Justification

Computer Science major at UGA has seen steady increases in demand and currently the ratios between students and faculty and tenure-track students to faculty are not optimal. At the same time, there is a pattern of students taking classes repeatedly (and still not succeeding), delaying their change of major to another one where they can be successful. Stricter entrance requirements can improve student/faculty ratio, and encourage struggling students to change major sooner.

2. Requirements

To be admitted into the major, students are required to satisfy the following requirements

- For [CSCI 1302](#), [CSCI 2610](#), and [CSCI 2720](#), in their first two attempts for each course, students must:
 - earn a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher in each course
 - AND
 - earn a GPA of 2.7 (equivalent to a B- average) overall or higher for the highest grades across all three courses.

“Attempts” include withdrawals reflected on transcripts. A student can choose to exclude W grades from one semester (for one or more classes taken that semester) from counting towards their 2 attempts.
- Students must also earn a C or better, or have equivalent AP credit, for CSCI 1301 and MATH 2250.
- Grades for transfer credits reflected on the student’s UGA transcript count towards meeting the above requirements in all cases.

3. Results

The above requirements should lead to some reduction in the number of students moving from intended computer science majors to computer science majors, and have even greater impact on number of seats of classes required. At the same time, the students moving to computer science major will be better prepared and should graduate on time and be professionally more successful. Significant data analyses undertaken has shown that the number of students repeating classes many times have incrementally even smaller chance of success – these requirements should encourage such students to look at other majors sooner, benefiting the program and the student.

4. Consequences of the Requirement

- a. How will this requirement affect the major involved?
 - b. What effects are anticipated on other majors within the University?
 - c. Are there any other anticipated effects on enrollment patterns within the University?
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- a. Please see the details under section 3.
 - b. It is hard to predict, but majors like Cognitive Science and Data Science might be the popular majors for students moving from computer science.
 - c. None at this point.

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Change the entrance requirements for the major in Computer Science (B.S.)

College: College of Engineering
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Departments: School of Computing

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2025

School/College:

- School of Computing Director, Dr. Gagan Agrawal, 8/26/2024
- College of Engineering Assistant Dean, Dr. Mable Fok, 1/6/2025
- Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean, Dr. Paula Lemons, 10/18/2024