

Spring 2009 Computer Science Advising Newsletter

We all hope that you had a good rest over break and are ready to finish up the year (we certainly are).

Dropping Courses

The last day to drop a class with a W grade is Friday, March 20th. After this date, you may only receive a WP or a WF under extraordinary circumstances at the discretion of the professor.

Summer Courses

Three CS courses will be offered this summer during the first eight week session:

CS 239 Advanced Computer Programming — Dr. Norton

CS 474 Database Design and Application — Dr. Mata

CS 480 Topics in Compiler Construction — Dr. Mata

CS 480 has CS430 as its prerequisite but everything that is needed from CS430 will be reviewed in the class. Students will write a small compiler using any programming language of their choosing as long as the language supports recursion (because the compiler will be developed using a recursive descent parser). The compiler will consist of three phases: lexical analysis, syntax analysis, and code generation. Both optimization and error recovery techniques will be covered.

Summer courses must have about a dozen students or they are cancelled. If you really want or need to take any of these courses, perhaps you can persuade some of your friends to take them as well as a way to boost enrollment to the required minimum.

Summer registration begins Monday, March 23rd.

Fall Courses

The fall CS course schedule is attached along with this newsletter. You will note that there are courses schedule to be taught by “New Web” and “New SE.” These are placeholders for faculty that we are attempting to hire right now, one specializing in gaming, graphics, and web development, and one specializing in software engineering and information security. If we fail to hire into one or both of these position, we will have to rearrange the schedule, but we are hopeful that this will not be necessary.

Fall registration begins Tuesday, April 7th.

Advising Appointments

The CS advising team wants to see freshmen and sophomores especially this semester:

Freshmen—You should visit your new major advisor to figure out your courses for fall and to plan your next several years in the CS major. If you are not sure who your advisor is, you can find out on ecampus. Your advisors know who you are and you should expect to hear from them to urge you to set up an appointment.

Sophomores—Although it may seem like graduation is still a long way off, you need to see your advisor to make sure that you are on track to graduate on time. It is easy to miss a prerequisite and then be in a pinch towards the end.

Juniors—You should be on track and we will ask you to come by in the fall to make sure. If you have any doubt, drop in on your advisor.

Seniors—We will see you at graduation, but you can still stop by and let us know how your job search or graduate school application process is going.

Synopsis: Dates and Deadlines

March 20th—Last day to drop with a W.

Now to April 7th—Freshmen and sophomores (and maybe juniors and seniors) see their advisors.

March 23rd—Summer registration begins.

April 7th—Fall registration begins.