

Computer Science Curriculum Revisions - FAQ

May 2018

Why are you changing the Computer Science curriculum?

The revisions are designed to:

- Align the curriculum more closely with ACM recommendations for CS curriculum,
- Strengthen the coverage of principles of programming languages to ensure compliance with ABET accreditation requirements, and
- Provide a more flexible framework for specializations.

What are the changes?

The department will introduce a new sequence of three courses:

- CSE 216 Programming Abstractions
- CSE 316 Fundamentals of Software Development
- CSE 416 Software Engineering

The new CSE 216 replaces the current CSE 219. The combination of CSE 216 and CSE 316 covers selected material from the current CSE 219, CSE 305, and CSE 307, whereas CSE 416 is a revised version of CSE 308.

How does this affect graduation requirements?

Current CSE graduation requirements include 15 technical CSE courses (five lower-level and ten upper-level). Changes pertain to CSE 219, CSE 305 *or* CSE 306, and CSE 308 are shown in the following table:

Current	Revised
CSE 219	CSE 216
CSE 305 <i>or</i> CSE 306	CSE 316
CSE 308	CSE 416
2 restricted and 3 open electives	5 open electives

The total number of required courses remains unchanged.

When do the changes take effect?

Fall 2018	CSE 219 offered for the last time
Spring 2019	CSE 216 offered for the first time
Fall 2019	CSE 316 offered for the first time
Spring 2020	CSE 416 offered for the first time;

	CSE 308 offered for the last time; Revised versions of CSE 305 and CSE 306 introduced
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How do the changes affect me?

- The changes officially apply to students matriculating in Fall 2018 or later. These students must take the new course sequence, e.g., CSE 216 instead of CSE 219.
- If you matriculated before Fall 2018 and successfully complete CSE 219 by the end of Fall 2018, you must follow your original graduation requirements. Since CSE 308 will be offered for the last time in Spring 2020, it is crucial that you complete the prerequisite courses (CSE 305 *or* 306; CSE 320) by the end of Fall 2019. Alternatively, you will be allowed to take CSE219/CSE305/CSE416, with CSE 416 being considered a replacement for CSE 308. This is an exception that we will allow. You will still follow the original graduation requirements with this one exception, i.e., CSE 305 instead of (CSE 305 *or* CSE 306); and CSE 416 instead of CSE 308.
- If you matriculated before Fall 2018 but do not successfully complete CSE 219 by the end of Fall 2018, you should follow the new graduation requirements and take CSE 216 instead of CSE 219. See Arie Kim, the Computer Science Coordinator, in A-201 or B-419 to officially change your *major requirement date* so that online degree progress reports, which are linked to that date, will accurately reflect their graduation status.

What is the impact of these changes on Computer Science minors?

The only change to the CSE minor is that the new course, CSE 216, replaces CSE 219. Thus, students may take either CSE 219 (before Spring 2019) or CSE 216 (beginning in Spring 2019) to complete CSE minor requirements.