Should I take up a minor in CS?

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Stuff we'll go over

- **Why should one choose this minor?**
- **What does one learn in this minor?**
- **What you should NOT mistake the minor to be**
- **Courses offered**
- **Course reviews**
- **My personal experience**

Why this minor might be a **nice** fit for you

- The CS Minor is the right place to pick up from if you're someone who had fun with CS101 in your first year, and you're now eager to move on towards learning more Computer Science.

- The minor will be a very fun experience if you're someone who enjoys problem solving, but at the same time you need to be comfortable with the fact that most of the minor is entirely theoretical and there is almost NO PROGRAMMING!

Why this minor might be a **not so nice** fit for you

- **If you are someone who is looking to land a software job in the future, but is not interested in studying CS as a whole, then you need not take the minor. Landing those jobs require you to practice coding Data Structures and Algorithms problems which the minor does not cover. However, keep in mind that some roles do not open up to you unless you have a CS Minor.**

- **Sometimes, people really want "IITB CSE" on their resume in some form or the other and hence end up taking the minor even though they're not interested in CS. Please don't do that.**

Knowledge bestowed upon you by the minor

- **All in all, the CS minor gives you a great overview of theoretical computer science - you do not learn much about how to practically code out algorithms since there are no labs, hence most of the minor is on pen and paper. That said, you gain a lot of good foundational CS knowledge which puts you in a good position to pursue anything tech related or even an MS/PhD in Comp Sci if you do some good projects + electives.**

Courses offered

- **CS 228 - Logic for CS**
- **CS 224 - Computer Networks**
- **CS 213 - Data Structures and Algorithms**
- **CS 419 - Introduction to Machine Learning**
- **CS 218 - Design and Analysis of Algorithms (CS 213 is a prereq)**
- **CS 207 - Discrete Structures**

My experience with the CS Minor

- Coming out of first year, I was in an interesting situation with respect to what I wanted to study for the rest of my three years. My CPI was good enough to potentially get an EE/CS Branch Change.

- But, I hated EE at the time (my DIC was a terrible experience) and I did not have the confidence that I would be able to academically compete in CS while making time for friends and extracurriculars.

- Hence, I did not opt for a branch change. I was still quite eager to learn more CS though - CS101 had been fun and I had done well in it (apart from raging at the labs a few times) and my father really wanted me to learn some more CS too - he insisted that being well versed in CS makes life way easier irrespective of what discipline you are in.

- At the time, I had 0 idea of what CSE really is like so my decision to take up the minor was 10% knowledge based and 90% curiosity based. At this time I had no motives like taking it so that I could move into the tech domain later, I was pretty focused on Physics, and it seemed that this would be a good thing to pair with my major. After reading a few course reviews, I had decided that this minor would be a good fit for me.

One year later, do I have any regrets?

Personally, the CS Minor has been the best thing to happen to me, I get to handpick what courses I want to learn and do just those without the cutthroat RG that I would have to deal with if I BC'd - so It's very chill and I enjoy what I learn making it a really good experience.

Moreover, after 3rd sem I started doing projects in CS and that trend continued and I jumped sides from Physics to CS and am now quite sure I will work towards a CS career.

aaaaand I'm done.

I hope that this was helpful
Feel free to text me if you have any other questions!

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Thank you and all the best!