CS Course Preferences

The Carleton Computer Science department is continuing a pilot preregistration match system for CS courses numbered 202 and above. The idea is to guarantee a seat in a single desired CS course for as many students as possible, while maintaining seniority-based priorities for registration.

Fill out this form by noon on Thursday, February 11, to participate in the match!

Here's some more details:
(1) Registration for CS 111 and 201 works as normal, but if you want to take a non-comps CS course numbered 202 or above, you should participate in The Match. To do so, you MUST fill out this form by NOON on Thursday, February 11, to submit your ranking of CS courses you're interested in taking. You will receive an email confirmation after you've submitted the form (if not, or if you have questions, please get in touch). That confirmation email also allows you to go back and change your preferences if you wish, up until the deadline.

(2) After all rankings are submitted, we run an algorithm to perform the matching. It tries to match each student (in seniority order) to a single CS course, which is the one that they most prefer that still has room left. By the start of advising days, we will email you to let you know if you matched to a course (and, if so, which one).

(3) If you matched to a course, then you will be guaranteed to be able to register for that course during the priority registration period. If you do not choose to do so by the end of the priority registration period, your seat will no longer be guaranteed.

(4) All seats to which students do not match will be available as usual during registration. If you didn't participate in the match, didn't match, or if you'd like to take a second CS course, you can select from these seats just as you normally would. As usual, you may also get on the waitlist for any class that is waitlisted.

We recognize that there is uncertainty about many things right now. If you'd like to take a CS class numbered CS202 or above in the spring, we encourage you to fill out the form as best of possible, knowing that you may not be quite sure of your preferences. You can always choose not to register for the course you're matched to if you wish. All courses in the Match will be available to all students, regardless of whether you are on campus or taking classes remotely.

Please email Anna Rafferty (arafferty@carleton.edu), or any CS faculty member, if you have questions about how the match works or how to fill out this form. Our goal with this process is to make CS more accessible to everyone - please don't hesitate to reach out.

You can read more about The Match on this website: http://cs.carleton.edu/faculty/dln/match.pdf

* Indicates required question

1. Email *
   _____

2. What is your full name? *
   _____

3. What is your student ID number? *
   _____

Preferences: What's your #1 course?
The table below shows the computer science courses numbered above 201 that are offered next term. You'll be asked to rank your preferences for which class you would like to take next term. Please rank all of the courses. You'll start from 1 for the class you most want to take next term. We anticipate that all of these courses will be available to all students, regardless of whether you will be on campus or taking classes remotely.

There is an option for "No CS course - I'd rather not be matched to anything than a course I rank below this." Please include this in your ranking, with courses ranked below that option - i.e., those with bigger numbers - being those that you don't want to take next term or cannot take next term due to missing prerequisites or having already taken the course.

For example, if I was most interested in CS257, followed by CS322, and then followed by CS208, and I had already taken CS202 and wasn't interested in or didn't have the prerequisites for any of the other options, I would submit the following ranking:

CS257 - 1
CS322 - 2
CS208 - 3
No CS course - 4
CS202 - 5
CS231 - 6
CS251 - 7
CS252 - 8
CS334 - 9

The relative ordering of my choices 5-9 doesn't matter - I won't be matched to any of them because my ranking numbers for them are bigger than "No CS course".

You'll likely want to take a look at the course schedule descriptions:
https://www.carleton.edu/computer-science/courses/

You can view times and prerequisites on Enroll:
https://apps.carleton.edu/campus/registrar/schedule/enroll/?term=21SP&subject=CS

Additionally, a picture of the schedule is included below, with course times and instructors, and you can see a table of prerequisites at the very bottom of this form.

CS Course Times (prerequisites in separate table below)

Course	Title	Time	Instructor
CS.202	Math of Computer Science	5a	
CS.208	Introduction to Computer Systems	2a	
CS.231	Computer Security	1a	
CS.251	Programming Languages	4a	
CS.252	Algorithms	3a	
CS.257	Software Design	4a	
CS.322	Natural Language Processing	3a	
CS.334	Database Systems	5a	

4. Rank the options below from most preferred (#1) to least preferred (#9), following the instructions above. *You may need to scroll the form horizontally to see column 9!* *

Mark only one oval per row.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CS202: Math of Computer Science	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CS208: Intro to Computer Systems	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CS231: Computer Security	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CS251: Programming Languages	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CS252: Algorithms	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CS257: Software Design	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CS322: Natural Language Processing	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
CS334: Database Systems	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
No CS course - I'd rather not be matched to anything than a course I rank below this. (Remember that #1 is your most preferred course, so "below" means "a bigger number".)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

5. Please indicate which of the following courses you have taken, are currently taking, or have placed out of (due to prior study and/or OCS, including if that OCS credit is not yet reflected on your transcript). For courses you've taken previously, please only check them if you earned a grade of S or C- or higher (i.e., you can use them as prerequisites for other courses).

Check all that apply.

- ☐ CS111
- ☐ CS201
- ☐ CS202
- ☐ CS208
- ☐ CS251
- ☐ CS252

☐ CS254
☐ CS257
☐ Math 111 or Math 101
☐ Math 236

Exceptions

We recognize that there may be exceptional cases where a student would like us to consider matching them to multiple courses or making an exception to their priority. Typically, this is only done for cases where not doing so might jeopardize the student's ability to graduate in 12 terms. If you believe your situation needs an exception, please email your request for an exception, including precisely what you are asking for and an explanation for that request, to cs-preregistration-petitions.group@carleton.edu.

If you were granted an exception in a past term and you believe you need another exception, please contact us again this term.

Prerequisite information: Below, we list the prerequisites for each of the courses above.

Course	Title	Prerequisites
CS.202	Math of Computer Science	CS111 and Math111/Math101
CS.208	Introduction to Computer Systems	CS111
CS.231	Computer Security	CS201/CS202/CS208 (any one of these is sufficient)
CS.251	Programming Languages	CS201
CS.252	Algorithms	CS201 and CS202/Math236
CS.257	Software Design	CS201
CS.322	Natural Language Processing	CS201 and CS202/Math236
CS.334	Database Systems	CS201

Frequently asked questions

How do I know which courses are being offered and at what times?
The CS courses and their times are listed on the match form above. We recognize that there is more uncertainty than usual about courses - please do your best to rank your preferences, and know that if you end up matched to a course that you do not want to take, you do not have to register for it.

Can I fill out this form if I'm not a CS major?
Yes! Anyone who wishes to take a CS course numbered 202 or above next term is welcome and encouraged to fill out the match form.

Why are you doing this?
The goal of the match is to help more students get into their most preferred CS course and reduce both waitlist churn and the number of students who are on many CS waitlists but not enrolled in any CS class.

What if I'm uncertain about whether I'll get into a study abroad program or I have other uncertainties about my registration?
If you think you might want to register for a CS course next term, we encourage you to fill out the match form. If you match to a course and then find out that, for instance, you'll actually be abroad, that's just fine - simply don't register for the course during registration. If you have not registered by the end of the priority registration period, we will assume you do not wish to use the seat, and we'll offer your seat to another student if one is on the waitlist.

What if I want more details on the match process or the algorithm used for the match?
You can read a longer description of the match and its goals here: http://cs.carleton.edu/faculty/dln/match.pdf

If I'm a senior, do I have to do this since I have high priority during regular registration?
You are still strongly encouraged to participate in the match even if you're a senior. Some courses may have all seats taken in the match, meaning they will be waitlist-only for non-matched students during registration.

What if I'm a FOCUS student?

If you're a FOCUS student and want to use your one STEM preregistration for the term on CS, please fill out this form and contact both your FOCUS advisor and us (cs-preregistration-petitions.group@carleton.edu) prior to the match deadline to let us know you want to use the preregistration.
If you decide after the match deadline, then you can follow the normal FOCUS preregistration process, but if all seats are taken in the match, you may end up on the waitlist.