Internship advice:

Internships for underclassmen:

- Don't stress too much about getting internships as a first/second year. If you can get one, awesome, it sets you ahead of the curve. You should try very hard to get an internship for your third year summer to get experience for applying for jobs that start the summer after your fourth year.
- There are also very few internships that ARE open to first/second years. Usually only bigger companies with the resources to invest in teaching students a lot on the job have these programs. Think Facebook, Google, Twitter. [Here is dedent list.](#)

Internship deadlines:

Internship applications often open for CS in the **Fall semester**. Many applications open in August and some close as early as October/November, so try not to wait until the Spring semester to start applying. They always seem to close earlier than you expect, so stay on top of deadlines for companies you're interested in.

Conferences with career fairs:

Attend Grace Hopper and/or Tapia conferences, they both have career fairs and there are pros/cons for each. Grace Hopper is huge so a lot of recruiters attend, I got my current job through Grace Hopper, Tapia is smaller so you're able to get more 1:1 time with recruiters.

How to practice for technical interviews:

[Read these slides very closely, all of this advice is spot on. Created and presented by Franklin Van Nes '18](#) during prep for tech 2022. Wish we had a recording, sorry!

- **Practice technical interviews as much as you can**. Getting over the nerves is more than half the battle so take any opportunity you can to get used to them.

- ○ Practice with friends.
- ○ Attend prep for tech. It's hosted by Colgate career services every year, can't remember which semester. Alumni come to campus (or call in) and will do mock interviews with you.
- ○ WICS (Women in Computer Science, Colgate club. Also Colgate Coders) sometimes will do mock interviews, matching upperclassmen with underclassmen. I'm sure if someone expressed interest they would do another round.
- ○ Talking through coding with anyone will be helpful, take any chance you can to do this.
- ● Leetcode. Leetcode is great for practicing with the kind of questions they'll ask during interviews (you can sort by frequency asked **and by company**) but it can be *very* demoralizing, so don't beat yourself up too much over it and don't overdo it. (But also do *some*)
  - ○ Make sure you actually try each question before looking at the answer. After you read the answer, make sure you can actually implement the solution on your own. You can practice speaking out loud while solving these to get some low-stake interview prep in.
- ● Being a TA has been excellent practice in my experience as well.

Resumes:

- ○ Get your resume certified with career services. It wouldn't hurt to introduce yourself to James Reed while you're there, he's the CS career services guy and is a great ally.
- ○ Make sure your resume is ATS parseable. When you apply for a job, overwhelmingly the first barrier you need to pass is the ATS parser that will scan through your resume and match up your qualifications and keywords with what the employer is looking for. Only after that point will an actual human come into contact with your resume. You can make sure your resume is parseable and see how well it aligns with job descriptions at [JobScan](#). Consider adding keywords (That applies to you! Anything on your resume is fair game to be grilled on during an interview) to make your resume align more with the particular job description you're applying to.

Where to apply:

- ○ Handshake is a great place to start since they have Colgate premier job postings -- in some cases recruiters posting these listings have a direct relationship with Colgate and your chances may be higher applying here.
- ○ Directly on company websites. Along with regular job postings;
  - ■ Make sure to check if there are any applications specifically for an identity you may have. For example, there may be a posting for a job that's only

open to people who attended Grace Hopper. Apply for those, they have less competition.
- If you know a geographic location or city in which you want to work, consider using Indeed.
- Using LinkedIn to connect with alumni and get referrals can be very useful. In addition, since CS is so broad, reaching out to alumni to learn more about the industry and different opportunities, in general, is also a great starting point to figure out what you may or may not be interested in.

Research advice:

- Don't only look for positions in the CS department, other departments often have need for people with coding skills. Think bio, chemistry, physics.
- Also consider directly reaching out to professors and letting them know that you're interested in research. They might not always have a position available for you, but they'll be more than willing to help you find the right person.
- Meet with the professor before you apply for the position. Read any preliminary materials they may send you when you arrange a meeting and come with questions.
- There are often positions available to people who have completed 102.