Scenario

Thomas is a sophomore in business information systems, and is deciding if he wants to switch into computer science. In order to make an informed decision he decides to go on degree works to figure out using the what if function how long it will take him to graduate, and which classes he will need to take. While using degreeworks, Thomas gets frustrated at how many things he needs to track to figure out what classes he can and can't take with the pre reqs that are listed individually. He then has to make an excel spreadsheet to track all of the classes, which semester he will them in, and which classes he can move around to create new paths. This takes Thomas a couple hours to do, and he thinks there must be a better way. He asks his advisor about it and shows her the spreadsheet he created to figure out if the classes he has chosen will work in that order, and she points out a few errors with the decisions he made. She tells him to use degreeworks+. Thomas opens degreeworks+ and after a few options are selected, in moments degreeworks+ has multiple pathways developed for Thomas that ensure he graduates as quickly as possible while achieving all that he has interests in.

User Story

As a user of degreeworks, I have actually developed spreadsheets as described in the scenario and it was a frustrating experience.

I personally like to try and solve a lot of problems myself, rather than relying on others. Especially when I was a business student, I couldn't immediately transfer to the computer science program, and I had to work with my business advisor to figure out what classes I could take and when, and she had to go and speak with the college of computing because she was familiar with business requirements and not computing. So this could help in those types of situations.

Degreeworks throws alot of information at you, so just organizing it and presenting it in a nicer way will go a long way for this program.

Feature List

Estimate the time to graduate.

List pre reqs and try to generate schedules for semesters based on current credits.

List descriptions of the classes under its name in the schedule to make it easier to determine what classes you want to change around if the pre reqs allow for that.

List multiple pathways for degree completion.

If you want to switch major entirely or see how a minor will impact your time to graduate, make it simple to determine.

Allow easy import of DegreeWorks program data.