

# Getting Started in Computer Science

## A Guide to Intro Sequence Courses in Computer Science

This document provides guidance on choosing your first CS course(s) at CC. If you need further information, please contact any faculty member in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. We'd be happy to talk to you!

The intro sequence is composed of four courses, each building on the previous course, and most students will take them in the following order:

1. CP115 (Computational Thinking)
2. CP116 (Advanced Python)
3. CP122 (CS1)
4. CP222 (CS2)

### Advanced Placement

If you have any experience programming, you should skip to **CP116** (you will need to e-mail the professor for a consent code). Exceptional cases, such as professional experience, may be eligible for further placement with consent of the instructor.

If you scored a 4 or 5 on the **AP Computer Science Principles** test, you should start with **CP116** or **CP122**.

If you scored a 4 or 5 on the **AP Computer Science A** test, you should start with **CP116** or **CP222** (you will not get credit for the AP course and CP122)

**Note:** At this time, CS majors with AP credit are not required to take CP116 if they place into CP122 or CP222 but you should be aware that upper-level classes (CP307, CP341) may be taught in Python. We recommend taking CP116 before CP307 (and may start requiring it, so taking it as a first-year student when there are seats reserved is highly recommended).

### Math Courses

CP courses are only part of a complete Computer Science education! When choosing how to fulfill the math requirement of the major, consider some of the applications of the approved math course list:

- MA 117 Elementary Prob/Stat OR MA 217 Introduction to Prob/Stat  
Useful for software design, data science, AI, human-computer interactions. **This will be required for some upper-level CS electives.**
- MA 120 Applied Linear Algebra  
Useful for data science, AI, networks, high performance computing. **This will be required for some upper-level CS electives.**

- MA126 Calc 1, MA129 Calc 2  
Useful for AI, data science, robotics
- MA201 Discrete Mathematics  
Useful for networks, high performance computing, analysis of algorithms
- MA251 Number Theory  
Useful for theoretical computer science, cryptography