

TO:	Course Scheduling Committee.
	Dean Christopher Lynch, BCOE
	Associate Dean Marko Princevac, BCOE
FROM:	Walid Najjar, CSE Chair
RE:	Scheduling of CS laboratory classes
DATE	Thursday, May 20, 2021

In the past CS lab sections were held in the 6 WCH lab rooms. These have a capacity of about 40 students each. With the growing increase in enrollment¹ in the majors supported by the CSE Department (CSD, CSBA, CEN, and DS) these lab rooms have become the bottleneck of our lab scheduling. In the past five years we have witnessed a near doubling of the enrollment in these majors.

Already in Fall 2019 we had reached about 90% of the scheduling capacity in the WCH lab rooms. As a result of this, we have made a great effort to move a large fraction of these lab online, e.g., CS 005, CS 006, CS 008 and some sections of CS 010A and CS 010B -- which are courses that have a very large enrollments. However, some courses are not well suited for online lab instructions. Furthermore, many of these labs need not be restricted to 40 students per section, without any loss of instructional quality.

While some courses do require specialized equipment that is only available in the labs, most do not and can easily be held in regular GE classrooms. The courses requiring specialized equipment will be scheduled in the WCH lab rooms.

The CSE Department is therefore requesting that the rest of the courses (i.e. not requiring specialized equipment and not done online) be scheduled in GE classrooms.

These courses need blocks of two hours once a week for the labs, we cannot carry out labs in upper division computer science courses in 50 minutes (standard block MWF) or 80 minutes (standard block TR). We have recently reduced the lab time for most CS classes from 3 hours to 2 hours.

Please note that the following courses: CS 010A/B/C, CS 061, and CS 100, need to have lab scheduled when all the students in the class have been through the same set of lectures.

The list of CS classes requiring lab for Winter 2022 is attached.

¹ Enrollments in computing majors: 2016 — 783, 2017 — 857, 2018 — 945, 2019 — 1,177, 2020 — 1,354. Please note that this growth in enrollment has not been requested or even desired by the faculty in the CSE Department. In fact, we have been consistently increasing the bar (using the AIS score) to limit the enrollment

Course	Expected Enrl	# Sections	enrl each	# hrs each	hrs per week
CS 010A	300	6	50	2	12
CS 010B	360	8	45	2	16
CS 010C	200	4	40	3	12
CS 061	200	4	50	2	8
CS 100	120	3	40	2	6
CS 105	80	2	40	2	4
CS 152	100	2	50	2	4
CS 153	80	2	40	2	4
CS 160	80	2	40	2	4
CS 161L	40	1	40	3	3
CS 165	120	3	40	3	9
CS 166	100	2	50	2	4
CS 178B	50	1	50	2	2
CS 179E	50	1	50	3	3
CS 179F	50	1	50	3	3
CS 181	50	1	50	2	2
ENGR 180W*	100	5	25	3	15
TOTALS		48	750	40	111
* Workshops					