Fall 2014 Instructions for Registration in Select Computer Science Courses

March 31, 2014

On March 23 a letter was sent to students announcing new registration procedures for certain Computer Science courses for Fall 2014. These new procedures apply only to COMP 11, COMP 15, COMP 20, COMP 40, COMP 105, COMP 135, and COMP 160. This note provides instructions on how to register.

The letter explains that for these courses registration is restricted to particular groups of students. For example, COMP 20 registration is restricted to “declared majors in Computer Science; or post-bac students; or graduate standing”, with a waitlist used for any such students who would cause the course to exceed capacity. Students who do not meet the restricted registration requirements may join a separate waiting list. The following sections explain how to register in iSIS and how the waitlists will be administered.

Be sure you understand whether you meet the restricted registration requirements for each course before attempting to register. NOTE: references in the letter to “current first-year students” designate students who are first-year students in Spring 2014 (i.e. rising sophomores who will have completed at least 7 credit hours by the end of Spring 2014).

SIGNING UP FOR THE APPROPRIATE “SECTION” IN iSIS

Usually iSIS has one “section” listing for each time at which a class is offered. For example, COMP 40 is offered in only one block and would usually have one section listing; COMP 11 is offered in two blocks, so normally there would be one iSIS section listing for each.

To support the two separate waiting lists, there are now two iSIS sections for each actual offering of the class. Although COMP 40 is only being offered Tues/Thurs at 1:30 PM, you will find two sections in iSIS. For COMP 11, there are 4 iSIS sections, two for each actual offering. Each pair of section listings has the following characteristics:

1. One section is intended for use by students who qualify for restricted registration (Comp Sci majors, etc.) This section shows in iSIS a capacity equal to the intended size for the course. There will also be a waitlist with additional capacity. This section will allow enrollment and waitlist registration only by students who meet the restricted registration requirements. iSIS will not let others enroll or waitlist, regardless of the date on which enrollment is attempted.

2. The second section is for use by students who are not eligible per the restricted registration rules. It will allow registration from any student who meets the prerequisites for the course, but it has a set capacity of zero (no students) and thus always shows as full in iSIS. Students who do not qualify for restricted registration may add themselves to this waitlist.

IMPORTANT: since the sections for unrestricted groups are always considered by iSIS to be full (waiting list only), it’s essential that students looking for these sections uncheck the iSIS box:

☐ Show Open Classes Only

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR RESTRICTED REGISTRATION

Most likely, your registration will be similar to what you do for any other course, but you must be sure to choose the section that’s intended for qualifying students. As discussed above, you can recognize these sections because their “Class Capacity” is greater than 0. You can also note that the Enrollment Requirements shown in iSIS match the published restrictions for the course (e.g. CS majors, etc.).

*Be sure you have found the appropriate (capacity > 0) section and register. If there is space in the class, your enrollment will be confirmed. If not, join the waitlist for the (capacity > 0) section.*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS WHO DO NOT QUALIFY FOR RESTRICTED REGISTRATION

As discussed above, the section you need will likely not show up in iSIS unless you uncheck the “Show Open Classes Only” box. The section you are looking for will have a capacity of 0; it will either have no Enrollment Requirements (because anyone can join the waiting list) or it will show prerequisite requirements unrelated to the capacity limits.

*Join the waitlist for this section.*

HOW CLASSES WILL BE FILLED

As usual, if iSIS accepts your enrollment in the course then your place is reserved. There is nothing further for you to do. *This will only be possible initially for students eligible for restricted registration.*

No students will be moved from either waitlist to full registered status until all eligible students have had an opportunity to register. After that, the department will move students from the waitlists to registered status as space permits. The timing for this will likely depend on the individual course and the number of students registered; for example, if many spaces are left after all qualifying students are served, then we can promptly register students from the unrestricted waitlist. In other cases, decisions may be delayed until closer to the start of the term.

FILLING SPACES IN THE FALL WHEN STUDENTS DROP CLASSES

Some classes may allow a few students from the head of the waitlists to begin class work for a few weeks at the start of term, but those students will be allowed to enroll and complete the class only if other students drop and open up a space. The details will depend on the particular class; *if you are eligible to do this you will be informed before the start of the term.* In the meantime, you should register and attend other courses, as there is a significant chance that there will not be space for you.