# Computer Science Curriculum Revisions - FAQ

## Why are you changing the Computer Science curriculum?

The revisions are designed to:
- Align the curriculum more closely with ACM recommendations for CS curriculum,
- Strengthen the coverage of principles of programming languages to ensure compliance with ABET accreditation requirements, and
- Provide a more flexible framework for specializations.

## What are the changes?

The department will introduce a new sequence of three courses:
- CSE 216 Programming Abstractions
- CSE 316 Fundamentals of Software Development
- CSE 416 Software Engineering

The new CSE 216 replaces the current CSE 219. The combination of CSE 216 and CSE 316 covers selected material from the current CSE 219, CSE 305, and CSE 307, whereas CSE 416 is a revised version of CSE 308.

## How does this affect graduation requirements?

Current CSE graduation requirements include 15 technical CSE courses (five lower-level and ten upper-level). Changes pertain to CSE 219, CSE 305 *or* CSE 306, and CSE 308 and are shown in the following table:

| Current | Revised |
|---|---|
| CSE 219 | CSE 216 |
| CSE 305 *or* CSE 306 | CSE 316 |
| CSE 308 | CSE 416 |
| 2 restricted and 3 open electives | 5 open electives |

The total number of required courses remains unchanged.

## When do the changes take effect?

- Fall 2018 - CSE 219 offered for the last time
- Spring 2019 - CSE 216 offered for the first time
- Fall 2019 - CSE 316 offered for the first time
- Spring 2020 - CSE 416 offered for the first time; CSE 308 offered for the last time; revised versions of CSE 305 and CSE 307 introduced

## How do the changes affect me?

- The changes officially apply to students matriculating in Fall 2018 or later. These students must take the new course sequence, e.g., CSE 216 instead of CSE 219.
- If you matriculated before Fall 2018 and successfully complete CSE 219 by the end of Fall 2018, you must follow your original graduation requirements. Since CSE 308 will be offered for the last time in Spring 2020, it is crucial that you complete the prerequisite courses (CSE 305 or 306; CSE 320) by the end of Fall 2019.
- If you matriculated before Fall 2018 but do not successfully complete CSE 219 by the end of Fall 2018, you should follow the new graduation requirements and take CSE 216 instead of CSE 219. See Diane Cerullo in the Computer Science Undergraduate Office to officially change your major requirement date.

## What is the impact of these changes on Computer Science minors?

The only change to the CSE minor is that the new course, CSE 216, replaces CSE 219. Thus, students may take either CSE 219 (before Spring 2019) or CSE 216 (beginning in Spring 2019) to complete CSE minor requirements.