
Summary of Computer Science Department Master's Student Handbook

Table of Contents

Computer Science Orientation & Action Items	- 2 -
Computer Science Department Staff	- 3 -
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS)	- 4 -
Other Important Websites	- 5 -
The MS3 Course Requirements.....	- 6 -
The MS4 Course Requirements.....	- 7 -
BS/BA/MS Requirements	- 9 -
Special Notes for All Students:	- 9 -
The CPT and OPT process	- 10 -
Academic Integrity.....	- 11 -
Course Schedule Fall 2022	- 13 -
Academic Calendar.....	- 14 -
Computer Science Faculty	- 15 -
Frequently Asked Questions	- 21 -
Brandeis University Campus Map	- 24 -

Computer Science Orientation & Action Items

- ❖ Read this Orientation Handbook for the Department of Computer Science.
- ❖ Walk through the checklist and the Accepted Student page (<https://www.brandeis.edu/gsas/admissions/accepted-students.html>) for incoming graduate students organized by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.
- ❖ Please fill out this Google Form so we can assign you an advisor: <https://forms.gle/JxyDf2Nk8hf7ujTp7>
- ❖ Attend the [Graduate School of Arts and Science \(GSAS\) orientation](#) and the [Graduate Student Affairs \(GSA\) orientation](#). Date and time TBA.
- ❖ **Attend the Computer Science Orientation which takes place on Tuesday, August 23rd from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Rapaport Treasure Hall.**
- ❖ International Students: Attend the mandatory International Student Orientation hosted by the [ISSO Office](#) (TBA).
- ❖ The Graduate Student Affairs office hosts social and educational events throughout the year, so follow them at: <https://www.brandeis.edu/graduate-affairs/index.html>.
- ❖ Do you have your housing all set? Check out the link to the Key Housing Resources: <http://www.brandeis.edu/gradstudent/housing/index.html>

Computer Science Department Staff

Mailing Address

Brandeis University

Computer Science Department, MS 018

415 South Street

Waltham, MA 02453 USA

Mail

Brandeis related mail will be sent to you at this address and placed in your mailbox in the Dept. Office for you to pick up anytime.

Building Access

Students have access to Volen and Vertica Lounge and after hours, using their Brandeis ID.

Staff

❖ Michael Golitsyn (Department Administrator)

- <https://calendly.com/golitsyn>
- golitsyn@brandeis.edu
- Volen Room 261
- 781-736-2701

❖ Anne Gudaitis (Program Coordinator)

- <https://calendly.com/gudaitis>
- gudaitis@brandeis.edu
- Volen Room 261
- 781-736-2723

❖ Chris Allison, Chief Systems Administration

- <https://www.cs.brandeis.edu/~guru/>
- chris@cs.brandeis.edu
- Volen Room 125
- 781-736-2717

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS)

In addition to **COSI advising faculty** and the **COSI Department Office**, the **GSAS, Registrar's** and **ISSO** (for international students) offices are your best resources for navigating the program.

Department	Location	Email ...@Brandeis.Edu	Phone	www.brandeis.edu/...
Graduate School Of Arts And Sciences (GSAS)	Kutz 219	gradschool	(781) 736-3410	gsas/
Registrar	Kutz 121	registrar	(781) 736-2010	registrar/
International Students And Scholars Office (ISSO)	Kutz	isso	781) 736-3480	isso/isso-portal/
Graduate Student Affairs	Kutz	gradstudentaffairs	(781) 736-3546	graduate-affairs/index.html
Career Services	Kutz 219	gsascareers	(781) 736-3414	gsas/professional/index.html
Housing	Kutz Grad Student Ctr.	weglinski	(781) 736-3547	graduate-student-affairs/housing/
English Second Language (Esl)	Rabb 340	arinaldo	(781) 736-3992	english-language-programs/index.html
Health Center	Stoneman/ Golding Bldg.	brandeishealthcenter	(781) 736-3677	health/
Brandeis Counseling Center	Mailman Build	bcc	(781) 736-3730	counseling/services-programs/

Other Important Websites

- ❖ Workday Student
 - (Course Enrollment, academic progress, etc.)
- ❖ LATTE
 - LATTE, our Learning and Teaching Technology Environment, is a Moodle-based learning platform that enables Brandeis faculty members and students to engage in online education.
- ❖ Brandeis Bulletin
 - (Requirements, learning goals and special notes related to the computer science program of study)
- ❖ Department of Student Rights and Community Standards
 - Policies and Procedures to adhere to as a student at Brandeis
- ❖ Campus Updates on COVID-19
 - COVID Color Policy Levels

The MS3 Course Requirements

Admitted students with an undergraduate degree in Computer Science must satisfactorily complete:

- An approved schedule of nine 4-credit COSI courses numbered 100 or greater.
- Students who have not successfully completed an Operating Systems course in their undergraduate studies, must include COSI 131a in their nine electives. Of those nine electives, you may take COSI 210, Independent study, which can be repeated at most once for credit.
- You are also free to take a cross-listed course, 100-level or higher, and/or enroll in an approved course at one of our consortium schools.

You are free to take any COSI course interests you. Taking at least one course in each of the following three major areas is recommended but not required:

- Systems
- AI and Interdisciplinary
- Theory

The MS4 Course Requirements

Admitted students with an undergraduate degree in a field other than Computer Science must satisfactorily complete an approved schedule of twelve courses which includes:

- The following 3 core courses that provide a fundamental background in Computer Science: COSI 12b, COSI 21a, COSI 29a.
- An additional 9 elective courses numbered 100 or greater one of which must be COSI 131, Operating Systems. Of those 9 courses, you may take COSI 210, Independent study, which can be repeated at most once for credit.
- You are also free to take a cross-listed course, 100-level or higher, and/or enroll in an approved course at one of our consortium schools.
- At most two core courses can be taken per semester.

Sample Course Schedule

In the first semester, a student that has tested out of 10a, will take 12b, 29a and an elective of their choice that does not have a prerequisite; this will then clear the way for a student to have more options in the second semester. *Electives for the fall are:* COSI 102a Software Entrepreneurship and 164a Introduction to 3-D Animation; a graduate student can also take a cross-listed course.

Placement Test

Placement in your first Computer Science course is determined through the COSI Placement Exam. If you pass the exam, your first class will be 12b, Advanced Programming Techniques. If not, you will need to enroll in 10a, Introduction to Problem Solving in Python. This will not count as one of your twelve required courses. We will post a link to the exam as soon as it opens again in mid-August and it should be completed before classes begin on Thursday, August 25th.

Academic Status and Progress in the MS4 Program

Students must maintain a B+ or better in the following foundation courses: 12b, 21a, and 29a. Students who have an average of less than a B+ for the subset of these courses, will be subject to probation and will have to retake the course.

Policy for enrolling in 12b as the first course

In order to determine an MS student's first course (either 10a or 12b), they must first pass the online Placement Exam that will be offered in August. This link will be provided over the summer.

Workday Student

Workday will not allow graduate students to register for classes under 100-level, so we will be working with the registrar to enroll our MS4 students in 10a, 12b, 21a and 29a. (see FAQ section, question #7).

BS/BA/MS Requirements

Requirements For BS/MS and BA/MS

This degree program is available only to Brandeis undergraduate students who have completed all requirements for the undergraduate BA or BS degree. Students propose a course of study for the fifth year that typically consists of six graduate-level courses, which may include an independent study and is approved by their advisor.

Special Notes for All Students:

Master's Project

Students who have finished all their course and residency requirements, may enroll in the Master's Project for an additional semester at a reduced tuition. This would allow a student to do the equivalent of a research paper or independent study to fill in a student's background.

Academic Status and Progress in both programs

Students must maintain a B- or better in any 100-level elective in order to get course credit. See "Academic Status" on previous page for MS4 foundation courses which requires a B+ average.

Residency Requirement

There is a 3-semester minimum residency requirement for full-time students though the program may also be completed on a part-time basis. BS/MS students have a one year minimum residency requirement. Summer school does not count towards the residency requirement.

Enrollment: Workday Student

Workday will not allow graduate students to register for classes under 100-level, so we will be working with the registrar to enroll our MS4 students in 10a, 12b, 21a and 29a. (see FAQ section, question #7).

The CPT and OPT process

If you are an international student planning on doing an internship in the summer in the US, you need to apply for a CPT as soon as you accept an internship offer. International master's students need to complete two academic semesters in residence on an F1 Visa status to be eligible to gain CPT authorization and will enroll in CS 293G, which counts for one academic credit. Most students enroll in this class during the summer in between their first and second year, once they have found an internship.

Here are the steps to follow once you have secured the internship:

- Go to the ISSO website to find the overall instructions for applying for CPT and follow the instructions on this checklist:
<https://www.brandeis.edu/isso/documents/current/employment/curricular-practical-training/application-checklist.pdf>.
- Send a copy of your offer letter to Professor Iraklis Tsekourakis, the Director of Graduate Studies, so he can approve the internship.
- Once that is approved, and during open enrollment, you will register for COSI 293g under Professor Tsekourakis.
- When those steps are complete the ISSO office will finalize your application.
- All students are responsible for submitting a Post-Internship Reflection Report.

For further details on procedure please contact ISSO Office at isso@brandeis.edu.

Academic Integrity

As stated in the Rights and Responsibilities handbook:

"Every member of the University community is expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. A student shall not receive credit for work that is not the product of the student's own effort."

"The university that carries the name of the justice who stood for the rights of individuals must be distinguished by academic excellence, by truth pursued wherever it may lead and by awareness of the power and responsibilities that come with knowledge." — Brandeis University Mission Statement

The following is an example of academic honesty policy for a programming class. There may be small variations between classes, but this is a good example of what is acceptable. It is your responsibility to make sure you know the academic honesty policy at the beginning of the semester and abide by it throughout the semester. The ramifications of academic dishonesty are severe and can result in failing a class or worse. Cases of academic dishonesty are routinely referred to the Dean's office.

As a student of this course, you are agreeing to the following rules:

- You may not work as a partner with another student on a programming assignment.
- You may not get code from online sources.
- You may not show another student your solution to an assignment, nor look at his/her solution, for any reason.
- You may not have another person "walk you through" an assignment, describe in detail how to solve it, or sit with you as you write it. You also may not provide such help to another student. This includes current or former students, tutors, friends, TAs, web site forums, or anyone else.
- You may not post your homework solution code online or ask others for online help. This includes: Public message boards, forums, file sharing sites and services, or any other online system.
- You must not share your solution and ideas with others.
- You must also ensure that your work is not copied by others, such as
 - Making sure to log out of shared computers;
 - Not leaving printouts of your code in public places;
 - Not emailing your code to other students or posting it on the web;

We enforce this policy by running similarity detection software over all submitted student programs.

Under our policy, the student who gives inappropriate help is as guilty as the one who receives it.

Instead of providing such help to someone who does not understand an assignment, point him or her to other class resources such as lecture examples, the textbook, or emailing a TA or instructor.

Programming assignments must be completed individually (unless specified otherwise by the instructor.)

All code you submit must be your own work. You may discuss general ideas of how to approach an assignment, but never specific details about the code to write. Any help you receive from or provide to classmates should be limited and should never involve details of how to code a solution.

Course Schedule Fall 2022

Course #	Course Name	Day	Time	Faculty
COSI 10A 1	Intro to Problem Solving in Python	M, W, Th	11:15 AM–12:05 PM	Hickey
	Recitation	F	5:40 PM–7:00 PM	
COSI 12B 1	Advanced Programming in Java	T,Th	3:55 PM–5:15 PM	Tsekourakis
	Recitation	M	5:40 PM–7:00 PM	
COSI 21A 1	Data Structures and the Fundamentals of Computing	T,Th	2:20 PM–3:40 PM	Tsekourakis
	Recitation	W	5:40 PM–7:00 PM	
COSI 29A 1	Discrete Structures	T,F	9:35 AM–10:55 AM	Mairson
COSI 45A 1	Effective Communication for Computer Scientists	T	3:55 PM–5:15 PM	Wittenberg
COSI 102A 1	Software Entrepreneurship	T,F	12:45 PM–2:05 PM	Salas
COSI 114A 1	Fundamentals of Natural Language Processing I	M,W	2:30 PM–3:50 PM	Lignos
	Recitation	Th	5:30 PM–6:50 PM	
COSI 123A 1	Statistical Machine Learning	M,W	8:30 AM–9:50 AM	Hong
COSI 126A 1	Introduction to Data Mining	M,W	4:05 PM–5:25 PM	Liu
COSI 130A 1	Introduction to the Theory of Computation	M,W	2:30 PM–3:50 PM	Storer
COSI 131A 1	Operating Systems	T,Th	2:20 PM–3:40 PM	Shrira
	Recitation	M	10:00 AM–11:30 AM	
COSI 134A 1	Statistical Approaches to Natural Language Processing	T,F	11:10 AM–12:30 PM	Xue
	Recitation	Th	12:20 PM–1:10 PM	
COSI 135B 1	Computational Semantics	M,W	4:05 PM–5:25 PM	
COSI 164A 1	Introduction to 3-D Animation	M,W,Th	10:10 AM–11:00 AM	Hickey
	Recitation	Th	5:30 PM–6:50 PM	
COSI 165B 1	Deep Learning	M,W	5:40 PM–7:00 PM	Zhang
COSI 166B 1	Capstone Project for Software Engineering	T, F	9:35 AM – 10:55 AM	Salas
	Recitation	F	2:20 PM - 4:20 PM	
COSI 217	Topics in Adaptive Systems	M, W	2:30 PM - 3:50 PM	Pollack

Academic Calendar

Important Dates	Fall 2022	Spring 2023
First Day of Class	Aug. 25	Jan. 17
No Class	Sept. 5, Sept. 26 - 27, Oct. 5, Oct. 10, Oct. 17, Nov. 23- 25	May 2 (Thursday Schedule)
Brandeis Days	Oct. 13 (Monday schedule), Oct. 18 (Monday schedule)	May 2 (Thursday schedule)
Last Day of Class	Dec. 7	May 2
Study Day(s)	Dec. 8	May 3 - 4
Commencement	None	May 21
Final Exams	Dec. 9-19	May 5-16

Computer Science Faculty



Rick Alterman

Educational Technology / Computer Supported Learning

Research Interests

Computer-supported communication, cooperation, and collaboration; learning and technology; cognitive engineering and modeling; human computer interaction; communication and discourse; internet and society

Courses Taught

COSI 125a Human Computer Interaction
COSI 118a Computer-Supported Cooperation
COSI 111a Computational Cognitive Science
COSI 125a Human Computer Interaction
COSI 118a Computer-Supported Cooperation
COSI 111a Computational Cognitive Science



Mitch Cherniack

Systems / Databases / Big Data

Research Interests

Databases and systems supporting the management of "Big Data"; software engineering.

Courses Taught

COSI 29a Discrete Structures
COSI 31a Computer System Structures and Organization
COSI 127b Database Management Systems
COSI 128a Modern Database Systems
COSI 227b Advanced Topics in Database Systems



Lotus Goldberg

Linguistics

Research Interests

Theoretical syntax and the syntax-semantics interface; ellipsis and null anaphora; morphosyntax; structure of Modern Hebrew and other Semitic languages; corpus linguistics.

Courses Taught

Ling 100a Introduction to Linguistics
Ling 115a Morphology
Ling 120b Syntactic Theory
Ling 121b Syntax II
Ling 125b Linguistic Typology
COSI 138a Computational Linguistics
Ling 190b Topics in Linguistics



Tim Hickey

Computer Supported Learning / Educational Technology / Game Design

Research Interests

Educational technology; computer Science education; 3D game design; interval arithmetic; scientific visualization; computer supported learning; groupware and collaborative editing; constraint logic programming.

Courses Taught

COSI 2a Introduction to Computers
COSI 11a Programming in Java and C
COSI 12b Advanced Program Techniques
COSI 89a Research Internship
COSI 152a/b Web App Development
COSI 153a Mobile Application Development
COSI 153b Mobile Game Design
COSI 154a The JBS Incubator
COSI 155b Computer Graphics
COSI 164a Introduction to 3-D Animation
COSI 320a/b IT Entrepreneurship Pract. I/II
EL 94a Experiential Learning Practicum



Pengyu Hong

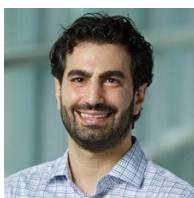
Bioinformatics / Machine Learning / Image Processing

Research Interests

Computer science, machine learning; image processing, bioinformatics; biomedical informatics; intelligent education.

Courses Taught

COSI 101a Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence
COSI 123a Statistical Machine Learning
COSI 178a Computational Molecular Biology



Constantine Lignos

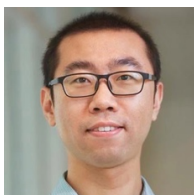
Natural Language Processing

Research Interests

Computational linguistics; natural language processing; language acquisition and change; psycholinguistics.

Courses Taught

COSI 217b Natural Language Processing Systems



Hongfu Liu

Bioinformatics / Machine Learning

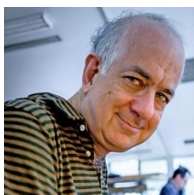
Data mining; machine learning; related applications in social media; computer vision; biomedical informatics.

Courses Taught

COSI 021a Data Structures and the Fundamental of Computer Science

COSI 126A Data Mining

COSI 129A Introduction to Big Data



Harry Mairson

Algorithms

Research Interests

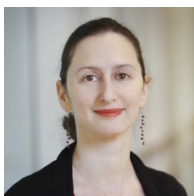
Logic in computer science, Lambda calculus, functional programming.

Courses Taught

COSI 29a Discrete Structures

COSI 121b Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs

COSI 190a Intro to Programming Language Theory



Sophia Malamud

Linguistics

Research Interests

Formal semantics and pragmatics; corpus linguistics; speech acts; game and decision theory; reference and information structure; modality; impersonals and passives; heritage language acquisition.

Courses Taught

Ling 130a Formal Semantics

Ling 140a Discourse and Pragmatics

Ling 160b Mathematical Methods in Linguistics

Ling 173a Psycholinguistics

Ling 190a Topics in Linguistics: The Heritage Language Experience

Ling 197a Language Acquisition and Development



Olga Papaemmanouil

Systems / Databases / Big Data

Research Interests

Distributed data management; databases; cloud computing; stream processing.

Courses Taught

COSI 12b Advanced Programming Techniques

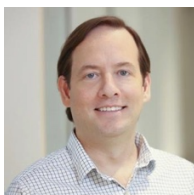
COSI 129a Introduction to Big Data Analysis

COSI 132b Networked Information Systems

COSI 228a Topics in Distributed Systems

COSI 128a Modern Database Systems

COSI 227b Advanced Topics in Database Systems



Keith Plaster

Linguistics

Research Interests

Phonological theory; historical linguistics; morphology; heritage linguistics.

Courses Taught

COSI 138a Computational Linguistics 2nd Seminar

LING 100a Introduction to Linguistics

LING 105a Phonetics

LING 110a Phonological Theory

LING 150a Historical Linguistics and Language Change

LING 160b Mathematical Methods in Linguistics

LING 190b Topics in Linguistics

LING 197a Language Acquisition and Development



Jordan Pollack

Artificial Intelligence

Research Interests

Artificial Intelligence; neural networks; machine learning; evolutionary computation and artificial life.

Courses Taught

COSI 2a Introduction to Computers

COSI 113b Artificial Life

COSI 217a Topics in Adaptive Systems



James Pustejovsky

Computational Linguistics / Linguistics / Artificial Intelligence

Research Interests

Theoretical and computational linguistics; artificial intelligence and machine learning; corpus linguistics and annotation; lexical semantics; temporal and spatial reasoning.

Courses Taught

COSI 101a Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence

COSI 112a Modal, Temporal, and Spatial Logic for Lang

COSI 114b Fundamentals of Comp Ling

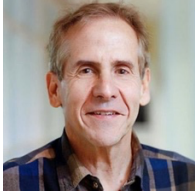
COSI 129a Introduction to Big Data Analysis

COSI 135b Computational Semantics

COSI 135b Computational Semantics

COSI 140b Natural Lang Annotation for Machine Learning

COSI 216a Topics in Natural Language Processing



Pito Salas

Research Interests

Entrepreneurship; software development methodologies, large-scale software systems architectures; user interface and user experience.

Courses Taught

COSI 12b Advanced Programming Techniques
COSI 105b Software Engineering for Scalability
COSI 152a Web Application Programming
COSI 152b Web App Development for Social Networks
COSI 154a The JBS Incubator
COSI 165a Software Entrepreneurship
COSI 166b Capstone Project for Software Engineering
COSI 167b Software Engineering Laboratory
COSI 202b Software Engineering Lab
COSI 235a IT Entrepreneurship
COSI 236b Software Development for IT Entrepreneurship



Liuba Shrira

Systems / Databases / Big Data

Research Interests

Distributed Systems; reliable and scalable storage systems.

Courses Taught

COSI 131a Operating Systems
COSI 146a Principles of Computer System Design
COSI 147a Distributed Systems



Jim Storer

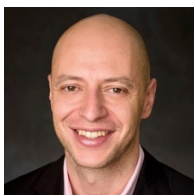
Theory / Algorithms

Research Interests

Computer algorithms; data compression; communications and archiving (including text, images; video and multimedia); image retrieval and classification; object recognition and parallel computing

Courses Taught

COSI 21a Data Structures and the Fundamentals of Computing
COSI 130a Introduction to the Theory of Computation
COSI 175a Data Compression and Multimedia Processing
COSI 180a Algorithms



Iraklis Tsekourakis

Computer Vision

Research Interests

Computer Vision, Multiple-View and Video-Based Dynamic 3-D Reconstruction

Courses Taught

COSI 10a Intro to Problem Solving in Python

COSI 12b Advanced Programming in Java

COSI 131a Operating Systems



Nianwen Bert Xue

Computational Linguistics / NLP / Machine Translation

Research Interests

Computational linguistics; Chinese language processing; Semantic role labeling; machine translation and annotation, including Chinese Treebank, Chinese Proposition Bank, OntoNotes.

Courses Taught

COSI 137b Information Extraction

COSI 216a Topics in Natural Language Processing

LING 131a Programming for Linguistics



Chuxu Zhang

Machine Learning/ Deep Learning/ Data Mining

Research Interests

Data science, machine learning, deep learning and related applications in graph/network mining, recommendation/user modeling, natural language processing, time series/spatial-temporal data analysis, inter-disciplines.

Courses Taught

COSI 133a Graph Mining

COSI 165b Deep Learning

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Will all my classes be online or in person?

This Fall, all of our classes will be offered in person.

2) Will I have a meeting with my advisor before I choose my classes? Will it be clear what classes I need to take?

Yes. After orientation, it should be very clear what classes you need to take; you will make an appointment with your advisor within the first week of classes to go over your curriculum. You will also find answers to your questions in this document, the COSI Master's Student Handbook.

3) How many classes do students normally take?

We have designed the program so that a student should be able to comfortably take 3 classes per semester. However, there are those students who wish to take 4, and though we do not recommend it, those with strong computer science backgrounds may be comfortable doing this. Regardless, you must meet your residency requirement.

4) If I have taken a class equivalent to one that is required in the MS4 program, what do I do?

If you have taken a class equivalent to one in your program at Brandeis, you must present the syllabus to the Professor teaching that class to see if it covered the same material. If that is approved, for the first course that is waived, you must replace that with another elective. MS4 students can transfer in a course as long as it has not been used toward fulfilling requirements for another master's degree.

5) I am in the MS4 program (for non-majors) and I learned programming on my own. What is the first COSI course I should take? Placement in your first Computer Science course is determined through the COSI Placement Exam. If you pass the exam, your first class will be 12b, Advanced Programming Techniques. If not, you will need to enroll in 10a, Introduction to Problem Solving in Python. ***We will post a link to the exam as soon as it is available and it should be completed before classes begin on Thursday, August 25. Continue to check this link for updates: <https://www.brandeis.edu/computer-science/placement.html>***

Note that COSI 10a will not count toward your credit requirements.

6) How long do I have to decide before I commit to a class?

If you wish to "shop" a class during the registration period because you're not sure about what elective to take, you are required to attend the first lecture of any class you are interested in. If

the class is full, add yourself to the waitlist and you will be automatically contacted when it opens up. Here is the video tutorial on how to do this in Workday. You will have plenty of time to drop the class if you chose to do so. This Fall, the “add” deadline is Monday, September 8, and the “drop” deadline is Friday, November 11. See detailed academic calendar: <https://www.brandeis.edu/registrar/calendar/fall-2022.html>.

7) How do I register for courses?

Workday Student is the system for course enrollment which you will use to view and manage personal information, register for classes, add or drop classes, view class schedule and grades, view financial aid, and more. This system is new and currently does not allow graduate students to register for undergraduate courses (those with course numbers less than 100). **If you are in the MS4 program, please wait to register for courses until after the COSI Orientation.** We will work with the registrar to enroll you for the courses you need after you have an opportunity to take the placement test.

8) If I’m an international student, can I do an internship in the summer? International master’s students need to complete two academic semesters in residence on an F1 Visa status to be eligible to gain CPT authorization and will enroll in CS 293G, which counts for one academic credit. Usually students enroll in this class during the summer in between their first and second year, once they have found an internship. For further details on procedure please compsci@brandeis.edu, and the ISSO Office at isso@brandeis.edu.

9) Are there Teaching Assistant (TA) positions I can apply for to supplement my income?

The number of TA positions available varies per semester. Once you have taken the class and the faculty member is confident that you know the material well, you can apply for an open TA position. Normally a new student will wait until their second semester or second year to be eligible for this kind of job, but it would depend on the student’s experience. Sometimes an instructor will ask you; feel free to approach them about the position.

10) Are there other jobs on campus that I could apply for?

Yes. You may go to Student Financial Services and apply for any job you are qualified for on-campus. However, you cannot apply before you arrive. The website is: <https://www.brandeis.edu/student-financial-services/employment/jobs/index.html>. The Department Coordinator will be generating your timesheets which you will be debriefed about once you are hired.

11) Does the department help me find an internship during my studies and/or a permanent job after graduation?

The Computer Science department provides multiple opportunities for students to establish relationships with stakeholders and industries in the field via our annual computer science career fair, 'meet and greets' with outside companies, as well as tech talks throughout the year. But, it is up to the student to get the internship.

12) What is a passing grade?

MS students must receive a B- or better on all their 100-level or above classes. In addition, the MS4's must average a B+ on the required undergraduate courses: 12b, 21a, and 29a. See pages 8 - 9 for further explanation on this MS4 requirement.

13) Can I do an Independent Study?

It is possible to do an independent study. An independent study can either be a faculty-supervised research project or ask them if they will supervise you. If you want to do an independent study approach a faculty member who knows you and ask them about doing it. Masters students are limited to two independent studies during the program.

14) Is there a Residency Requirement

There is a 3 semester residency requirement for full-time students, though the program may also be completed on a part-time basis. Neither summer school nor JBS counts towards the residency requirement.

Brandeis University Campus Map

