## Advice for 3-2 Combined Plan CS Students

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**Columbia University** 

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Flaking out on classes, for whatever reason, is the number one problem combined plan students have.

Extending your time here is nearly impossible.

# **Double-Majoring and Minoring**

In a word: don't

3-2 students don't have the time to complete another program's requirements

Future employers and graduate schools don't care

Do well in your CS courses; take electives for the rest

Better to do an independent project with a professor whom you can impress



# Advising



I am the CS advisor for Combined Plan students Email me for an appointment anytime (sedwards@cs.columbia.edu)

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Intrepid administrator Clarissa Peña helps with bureaucracy

(clarissa@cs.columbia.edu)

She's on your side

See the QuickGuide: CS website  $\rightarrow$  Academics  $\rightarrow$  BS/BA Programs  $\rightarrow$  BS in Computer Science (SEAS)

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- 21 points (=7 classes) of track courses
  Some required, some "choose three from these seven," others advisor-approved
- 15 points (=5 classes) of general technical electives 3000-level or above in science (including CS), engineering, or mathematics.

## Selecting a Track



#### Read the Quick Guide for SEAS CS Students

Pick the track with interesting required courses

Switching tracks is possible; required courses of one track usually electives or general technical electives for another

## Track and General Technical Electives

Most tracks have elective requirements (e.g., "Any four courses from this list" "Any COMS W41xx course")

Such electives are meant to follow the topic of the track.

Topics courses (e.g., COMS 4995) must be relevant to the track. I must approve track electives.

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You must also take 15 points of General Technical Electives

Most CS and engineering courses 3000 or above qualify as GTEs. Other science and math courses may qualify. I must approve GTEs

Contact me via email for elective approvals

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Clarissa and I are here to help with the import process

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- Submit your import requests through http://mice.cs.columbia.edu
- I'm happy to approve imports of most basic classes
- I may refer you to the instructor for advanced classes

## Graduating



Columbia Student Services Online (SSOL: ssol.columbia.edu) Among other things, has a Degree Audit Report (DAR) An unreliable indicator of your progress

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Not to worry  $\rightarrow$  Clarissa and I clear you to graduate We follow your transcript and imported classes