

# Four Year Plan Step-by-Step

Department of Computer Science

2017 – 2018 Academic Year

## What is a Four Year Plan?

The Four Year Plan is required of all undergraduate students who are a declared Computer Science major. This plan is meant to assist students in creating an academic plan to assess:

- Which general education requirements are complete and how to incorporate the remaining requirements into their time at UMCP.
- Which major required courses are complete and how to incorporate the remaining requirements into their time at UMCP.

## Resources Necessary to Complete the Four Year Plan

You will need to have access to the following:

- A blank Four Year Plan sheet (*link here*)
- A copy of your unofficial transcript (*link here*)
- The Computer Science four year plan (*link here*)

**Tip:** It's easier to print out all the documents so that you can write on them and cross out requirements that you have already satisfied for easier tracking.

## Step 1: Your Unofficial Transcript

Print out a copy of your "Unofficial Transcript" from Testudo (url: <https://ntst.umd.edu/testudo/main/uotrans>). You will need to sign in with your directoryID and password.

Montgomery College					
1308	INTRO COLLEGE WRITING	B	3.00		L1
	WRLD IN 20TH CENTURY	B	3.00	HIST219	DSHS, DVUP
				Footnotes: MH 18 19	
	AMERICAN POPULAR MUSIC	A	3.00		DSHU, DVUP
				Footnotes: MH 18 19	
	INTERNATNL RELATNS	A	3.00	GVPT200	DSHS
				Footnotes: MH	
1401	DRAWING I	A	3.00	ARTT110	DSSP
				Footnotes: MH 18	
	CRITICAL RDG/WRTG/RSRCH	A	3.00	ENGL101	FSAW
	FIRST AID & SAFETY-HOME	A	2.00	HLTH150	DSXX
				Footnotes: MH 18 19	
	CALCULUS I CE-R	A	4.00	MATH140	FSAR, FSMA
1405	INTRO TO PROGRAMMING	A	3.00		L1
				Footnotes: 21	
1408	INTO SOCIOCUL ANTH HONOR	A	3.00	ANTH260	DSHS, DVUP
	INTRO ASTRONOMY	A	4.00	ASTR101	DSNL
	COMPUTER SCIENCE I	C	4.00		L1
				Footnotes: 06	
	INTRO HUMAN COMM	B	3.00	COMM107	FSOC
				Footnotes: MH 18	
	CALCULUS II	W	0.00	No Credit	
				FOOTNOTES: (MH,19)	
1412	COMPUTER CONCEPTS	A	3.00		L1
1501	ENVIRONMENTAL BIOL	A	3.00	ENSP101	DSNS
				Footnotes: MH	
	COMPUTER CONCEPTS	A	3.00	Dup. Credit	
	COMPUTER SCIENCE II	B	4.00		L1
	VISUAL PROGAMMING	A	3.00		L1
	CALCULUS II	C	4.00	MATH141	FSMA
				Footnotes: MH 19	
<b>Acceptable UG Inst. Credits:</b>			<b>58.00</b>		
<b>Applicable UG Inst. Credits:</b>			<b>58.00</b>		

Figure 1: Transfer Credits on an Unofficial Transcript.

Advanced Placement Exam					
1501	U.S. GVPT/SCR 5	P	3.00	GVPT170	DSHS
1601	CHEMISTRY/SCR 3	NC	0.00	No Credit	
	ENG LANG/COMP/SCR 3	P	3.00		L1
	WORLD HISTORY/SCR 4	P	3.00		L1
	CALC BC/AB SUBSCR 5	P	0.00	No Credit	
	CALCULUS BC/SCR 5	P	4.00	MATH140	FSAR, FSMA
	CALCULUS BC/SCR 5	P	4.00	MATH141	
1701	BIOLOGY/SCR 4	P	3.00	BSCI160	DSNL
	BIOLOGY/SCR 4	P	1.00	BSCI161	
	BIOLOGY/SCR 4	P	3.00	BSCI170	DSNL
	BIOLOGY/SCR 4	P	1.00	BSCI171	
	ENG LIT/COMP/SCR 3	P	3.00		L1
	FRENCH LANG/SCR 4	P	4.00	FREN203	
	STATISTICS/SCR 3	NC	0.00	No Credit	
<b>Acceptable UG Inst. Credits:</b>			<b>32.00</b>		
<b>Applicable UG Inst. Credits:</b>			<b>32.00</b>		

Figure 2: AP Credits on an Unofficial Transcript.

You will notice, if you are bringing in any external credit, there are 6 columns of information. Figures 1 and 2 are meant to give you an example of the different types of information that can show up on your transcript if you are bringing in external credit.

- The **first column** indicates the term in which the class, or exam, was taken. For example, 1501 in Figure 1 indicates that the course DEVEL FOR THE WEB was taken in the spring 2015 semester. The first two digits indicate the year and the last two digits indicate the first month of the semester. There are 5 months that can show up on your transcript:
  - 01: Spring Term
  - 05: Summer Session I
  - 07: Summer Session II
  - 08: Fall Term
  - 12: Winter Term
- The **second column** indicates the course title at the institution where you took the course or the name of the AP/IB exam that you took. In addition to the title of the AP exam, you will see in Figure 2, that the score you receive will also be noted in the “course title” column.
- The **third column** for transfer credit will be the grade that you received. For AP/IB exams, it will be a “P” for passing and “NC” for no credit.
- The **fourth column** will be how many credits you are receiving for the course/AP/IB exam.

- The **fifth column** is the UMD equivalent of the AP/IB/Transfer Credit that you are bringing in. For example, in Figure 2, the student received a 4 on the AP Biology exam and is received credit for both BSCI160/161 and BSCI170/171 (for a total of 8 credits).
- The **sixth column** is what the course will satisfy at UMD. Continuing to use the Biology example, BSCI160/161 and BSCI170/171 will satisfy DSNL general education requirements. Now let's look at the AP ENG LIT/COMP in that same figure, Figure 2. The student is received L1 credit for this exam – this means that the student is receiving lower level elective credit for this exam. *Please refer to the General Education Requirement index at the end of this document for information on what each 4 letter code means.*

## Step 2: Where to Start

If you've just started here, or you've been here for a few semesters, it's helpful to fill out the worksheet by reviewing the already existing 4 year plan for Computer Science (url: <https://cmns.umd.edu/sites/default/files/uploads/docs/4yr-plans/cmsc.pdf>).

When looking at the 4 year plan, in conjunction with your unofficial transcript, start crossing off the requirements that you have already have completed *or are in the process of completing*.

- Start by filling out all the information at the top of the page. Please **do not** leave this information blank; you will not receive credit for turning in your plan without this information.
- The first semester is easy, you just need to copy your course information from your transcript or student schedule. While you are filling in your courses, make sure that you are also filling in their corresponding general education requirement, if applicable.

## Step 3: Where to Next?

- The next part is filling out every semester after that with the required courses for Computer Science (CMSCXXX) that you have remaining.
- Once you have filled out the CMSC course, you will want to fill in your remaining General Education requirements.
- After your general education requirements, comes your upper level concentration requirements.
  - Your upper level concentration is 12 credits at the 300 - 400 level outside of Computer Science and it is of your choosing.
  - Make sure that you are including any and all prerequisites for your upper level concentration courses into your plan.

Your final 4 year plan will look like the next page.



## General Education Requirements

REMINDER: Some general education requirement will double count (e.g., MATH140 will satisfy both your FSMA and FSAR requirement).

### Fundamental Studies—FS

Academic Writing (AW)

Professional Writing (PW) *completed after 60 credits*

Math (MA)

Oral Communication (OC)

Analytic Reasoning (AR)

### Distributive Studies—DS

Natural Science w/lab (NL)

Natural Science (NS or NL)\*

History and Social Science (HS)\*\*

Humanities (HU)\*\*

Scholarship in Practice (SP)\*\*

*\* Students can take either one DSNL and one DSNS or two DSNL designated courses*

*\*\* Students must complete two DSHS courses, two DSHU courses, and two DSSP courses*

### I-Series—SCIS

Students must complete two I-Series courses. These designations are typically paired with courses from the distributive studies area.

### Diversity—DV

Understanding Plural Societies (UP)

Cultural Competency (CC) or another Understanding Plural Societies (UP)

In a similar vein as the I-Series, the Diversity requirements are typically paired with courses from the distributive studies area.