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Thread: [1st Semester/Year in College](#)

ReaperHax - November 5, 2018, 12:58 pm

I am in my first semester and majoring in Computer Science. I love the subject and have always been interested in technology, computers, and programming. Not to mention I have almost a perfect grade in the Comp Sci classes due to my passion on the topics covered. The struggle is with the general education classes that have no correlation to the major or the industry I would be entering. The fact that I need Calculus 1 and 2 for my major is fairly irrelevant when we live in an age where searching a algorithmic equation on the internet takes less than 30 seconds and doesn't require any brainpower or unnecessary waste of storage in my mind. I have thought about enlisting in the Army and going into Cyber Warfare where I could be trained to specialize in cybersecurity without having to take other courses, and serve our country at the same time.

If anyone cares to share their advice on this subject such as getting through these courses and managing time and stress, please do. ?

Nima304 - November 5, 2018, 3:45 pm

You're going through the same stuff I did when I first went to college. I changed my major from CompSci to Information Systems after my first semester when I failed Calc 1, since IS only requires Calc 1. When I failed the second time (thanks, cute girl in class), I switched to an IT degree to get out of the math requirement altogether.

17C (Cyber Operations Specialist) training in the Army is absolutely fantastic and I would highly recommend it if you want to go into system administration or systems engineering, as it'll allow you to get a ton of certs, those being the A+, Network+, Security+, CEH, CISSP, and CCNA. If your college has a ROTC program, trying to go for 17A (Cyber Operations Officer) is also a great plan. It's less training (CCNA and CISSP if I remember correctly), but you'll be in charge of 40 cyber soldiers right off the bat, so it's a great way to set yourself up for leadership positions in the civilian world. I've met a lot of the leadership and a class of aspiring officers in the 780th MI Brigade down in Ft. Gordon, they're all fantastic people with a variety of backgrounds.