Dear Students,

When I first found out that I was in the Computer Science class, I was horrified. I had no idea how to program, and I didn't know anyone who was in the class with me. After the first lesson, I was even more scared. I had no idea what was going on half the time, everyone seemed smarter than me, and I was ready to switch into a different class. For some reason, I continued. I'm still not sure why I didn't switch out, even when others did. But I persevered, made some of the closest friends I have in this class through the mutual struggle of homework and Matlab, and had fun. This class is difficult, and as soon as you think you understand a topic, everything just keeps on getting harder. But the struggle, the extra hours put into the class, makes it worth it. In this class, you learn so much more than programming and virtual worlds and cameras. You learn how to argue effectively and defend against logical fallacies, how to live in the moment, and how to keep going, despite your code not working and this being the fifth time you are trying to rewrite it. However, I think the most important thing I learned in this class is the answer to the question "Why?" Why do you want to be an engineer? What is engineering? Engineering is art. We all strive to be the first, the best at something. We are artists, and this is our medium. Rather than working with clay or wood or paint, we work in the world of numbers and computers, wanting to create something beautiful, something new. Keep an open mind, work hard, make friends, and have fun in this class. Enjoy every moment of it, whether you are ready to throw your laptop on the ground out of annoyance, or celebrating a successful code.

- Amrita