Dear Future Students,

When I first started this class, I was a bit scared. While I generally have confidence in my own abilities, I had little to no coding experience and was worried I would be behind. I wasn't sure if I'd even enjoy computer engineering. I quickly discovered how awesome computer science is. It's everything I love about math and logic, but applicable!

I can be a competitive person, and it was difficult at first for me to ask for help when I needed it. However, I quickly realized that my classmates were my best resource. I could struggle for hours on one problem, or we could all work collaboratively and solve it in a fraction of the time. I know teachers emphasize teamwork a lot and it seems super annoying, but it's extremely useful for this class. Even though I had less coding experience, I was still able to productively contribute to the group.

You will need to push yourself to get the most out of this class as you can. Going into calculus and computer science the next year, I was able to see the applications of what we were doing and how amazing it was that we got the chance to work with this. I'm glad I didn't slack off when my final project was completed and continued to challenge myself.

If you're taking this class as part of a camp, remember to enjoy yourself! When study session is over, remember to relax and spend time with your new friends instead of studying on your own all evening. I know it's hard since the homework is so fun, but you need to do other things too. Our TAs had to enforce "mandatory fun time" and forcefully took away the laptops. Good times.

The course went beyond computer science as well, going into logic problems, forming arguments, and art. Our yoga breaks inspired me to start yoga when I got home, and it has become a large part of my life.

This camp was one of the best experiences I have had. The challenging coursework plus being away from home taught me a lot about both computer engineering and myself. I hope your four weeks are as enjoyable as mine were!

Katie Moulton