Undergraduate Curriculum

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Pressures
• Rapidly increasing enrolment
  – CS180 last year ~350 students
  – CS180 this year ~450 students
• How to maintain quality and outcomes?
• How to improve retention and graduation rates?
• A number of initiatives
  – Bridge program
  – Instructional assistance

Learning focused
• Historically labs in many of our courses have been adversarial “tests”, pitting students against each other
• Switch in 180 this semester to collaborative and group problem solving
  – Strong students help weaker students
  – All students get to hear alternative problem solving approaches
  – TA led/taught discussion followed by small group and individual problem solving

Assessment changes
• Labs not being heavily assessed
• Projects, mid-terms, final exams the primary assessment mechanism
• CS180 mid-terms are to be “live coding” tests
  – 250 laptops in exam room
  – Standard environment
  – Programming problems

Increasing help avenues
• Supplemental instruction program (SI)
• USB help staffed Mon-Thu 7-9pm
• USB tutoring program