

Applied Computer Programming (aka, "Buffet")
Mr. Neat
Class Rules
2021-2022

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your interest in this class. Computer programming is an exciting, ever-changing field and I look forward to our adventures together. This class is intended to be a relaxed, fun, low stress option for learning how to code. If the student desires a more demanding alternative, they have the freedom to switch to the AP course curriculum which is taught concurrently (so no schedule change is required).

1) Grades

The course is self-paced. Student grades will be determined from their labs. Each lesson will have a lab that will help the student practice the new material presented. Since the class is self-paced, the number of labs completed at any time will vary depending on the student. If the student uses the class time constructively, progress will be measured against the individual student. In contrast, if the student wastes class time, then that student's lab grade will be derived by comparing to other students' lab progress.

2) Behavior

Academic progress will depend heavily on students helping each other. Help is a two-way street: it requires students willing to share their knowledge and students with the courage to ask for help when they get stuck. Students helping students is strongly encouraged. However, "helping" does not imply copying. There is no educational value gained in this course by copying work. This behavior is strongly discouraged.

3) Attendance

This class has no homework and no quizzes! Consequently, students are expected to use the allotted class time wisely and efficiently. Examples of misuse are sleeping, arriving late, working on assignments from other classes during my class period, playing fortnite,...Such behavior will negatively impact the student's lab grade.

4) Curriculum

All software required for this class is FREE! The course “textbook” is hosted on github (<https://github.com/gregneat/NeatPoole22>) and is continually updated. The “textbook” consists of zillions of folders, each containing a slide presentation on the new material for that folder, a video covering the requisite material and a sample lab output (so the student knows what their lab should do when they are done).

5) Remote Learning Platforms

Google Classroom (GC) will be the cornerstone platform for the class. Students will submit and receive class communications through GC. Eventually, the instant messaging software, Discord, will be added to the suite of tools for class communications. This addition will be used for extra help, “office hours” and community building.

6) Communication

The best way to reach me is by email (gneat@gusd.net). I also have a website (drneato.com) where I have course information and class grades (click on the “school” link). Please DO NOT leave a message on my school phone extension.

Thank you for your interest in this class and reading this letter,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Please acknowledge your reading and understanding of these rules by providing the requested information in the boxes below.

Student Name:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent Email: