

Hi! I'm Aidan, a freshman at UCSC studying Computer Science! While I consider myself a computer nerd today, I was not always this passionate about the subject. Entering highschool, I never really appreciated computer science. Outside of video games, programming looked like nothing more than a gimmicky hobby that really didn't do much. My perception of programming shifted when I took a course at my community college on web development over the summer. The class covered HTML, CSS, and Javascript, and in the course, I was able to build a website with little widgets and games embedded into it. The class opened my eyes to the power of computer languages. After that class, I began to take an interest in computer science and started taking more courses on the subject online and in high school, where I learned more about javascript and python! I soon discovered that I enjoyed the challenge and problem-solving that came with computer science. While I found programming difficult, I realized that frustration and success go hand in hand. Working with programming languages also made me see the potential for computer science to have a significant impact in various industries, making me realize that in this day and age, learning how to code is more relevant than ever. If you think about it, almost every single industry relies on computers and algorithms in some way to automate tasks and process data. With how relevant the computer science industry is today in our world, I believe that pursuing a career and degree in this field will give me the skills and knowledge to work for something that I am passionate about and will positively impact society.