

Syllabus - AP Computer Science A

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Course Overview:

AP Computer Science A is equivalent to a first-semester, college level course in computer science. The course introduces problem solving and programming using Java. The topics in this course include: program class design, implementation techniques, programming constructions, Java library classes, testing, debugging, runtime exceptions, program correctness, algorithm analysis, strings, classes, lists, one and two dimensional arrays, sorting, searching, and operations on data structures. A minimum of 20 hours for hands on lab experiences are also part of this course. Discussions on the ethical and social implications of computers including protection of privacy, intellectual property, and public safety will be included throughout the school year.

Text Book: Liang, Daniel. *Introduction to Java Programming AP Edition*, New Jersey: Pearson. 2017.

Required Class Materials: Pencil/Pen, Notebook **Prerequisites:** Passing ECS

Class Policies:

All school and district rules/policies are expected and enforced. The two most important rules to me are: you are respectful to yourself and others, and you are engaged and learning the material we are working on in the class.

Grading Policies:

Your overall grade for this class is made up of two categories:

Work (50%): This includes the work that is collected for the class including homework and lab assignments.

Tests (50%): This includes unit tests, midterms, final tests, and some projects.

Here is the grading scale for our class:

- A (90%-100%): A student who is excellent in computer science and an outstanding student.
- B (80%-89.9%): A student who is excellent in computer science and an average student, or average in computer science and a great student.
- C (70%-79.9%): A student who is average in computer science and an average student, or excellent in computer science and a poor student.
- D/F (0%-69.9%): A student who needs to retake the course because of poor study skills and lack of effort.

Students are expected to complete and submit their own work. Involvement in any activity for the purpose of copying, cheating or benefiting from work that is not 100% their own will be subject to consequences as outlined in the Academic Code of Conduct.



Preparation - Be ready physically and mentally.

Respect - Show consideration, appreciation, and acceptance.

Integrity - Be honest, sincere, and kind in words and actions.

Determination - Set goals and meet expectations.

Empathy - Show the ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

The Computer Science Pathway:

This course is part of a three-year computer science pathway. The courses in order are **Exploring Computer Science**, **AP Computer Science A** and **AP Computer Science Principles**. Each of these courses is a prerequisite of the one before it.

Parent/Guardian and Student Signatures:

Please read this syllabus carefully before signing it. Since it will serve as a contract between the school and home. Do not detach this portion. Return the entire sheet to the instructor. If you would like to have a copy of this syllabus, please request one or download it from the class's [GitHub](#) repository. This signed syllabus is due on the first day of the second week for the semester. My parent(s) / guardian(s) and I have read and understand the course requirements outlined.

Print Student's Name: _____

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Signature: _____