

Course Description – AP Computer Programming

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Course Description: Computer Science A emphasizes object-oriented programming methodology with an emphasis on problem solving and algorithm development and is meant to be the equivalent of a first-semester course in computer science. It also includes the study of data structures and abstraction. This course covers the following topics: Object-Oriented Program Design, Program Implementation, Program Analysis, Standard Data Structures, Standard Algorithms, and Computing in Context. For more details visit: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-computer-science-a/course-details>.

Contact Information: Students or parents are encouraged email me at “carr_jeron@ausd.us”. I typically respond to email within two workdays. If you haven’t heard from me please resend your message and/or write me a note that can be placed in my teacher mailbox. The classroom telephone does not ring for off-campus calls and is not a good way to contact me.

Class Expectation: As young adult, high-school students, there is an expectation that it not be necessary to list every possible inappropriate behavior. So, I have three basic guidelines:

- Be Responsible: Take care that you are where you need to be, completing what is supposed to be finished, with the materials you ought to have.
- Be Respectful: Treat others the way you would hope to be treated yourself.
- Be Resourceful: Make a true effort to solve your own problems, don’t be afraid to amaze yourself.

Negative Consequences: based on the severity of the inappropriate behavior repercussions may include:

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| ✓ exclusion from class discussions | ✓ meeting with school personnel (coaches, counselors, etc.) |
| ✓ detention | ✓ referral to the Dean’s Office |
| ✓ full page essay | ✓ lower Conduct grade (citizenship) |
| ✓ phone call or meeting with parents | |

Student Office Hours: Currently, I plan to be on campus Tuesday and Thursday after school until 4pm for my students. In addition to these times, I am usually in my room during lunch, and appointments can be made for before school. If you intend to come in for help, be certain to let me know to expect you.

Parent Appointments: For discussions too complex for email, please, schedule an appointment through the guidance office with a couple possible meeting times. I will choose the first meeting time for which I don’t have a prior conflict. Appointments may be scheduled before school, at lunch, after school or during 5th period (12:37-1:33). Making an appointment with a description of the problem allows me time to prepare for our discussion. It also lets me focus my attention entirely on working with you.

Required Materials – (Note: A materials check may be called at any time for a grade)

1. **Notebook:** College ruled and devoted entirely to Computer Programming (at least 30 blank pages)
2. **A Flexible Folder with Pockets:** To hold reference materials.
3. **Part of a Binder or another Folder:** To hold any hard copy assignments.
4. **Loose Notebook Paper:** 5 pieces that do not need to be ripped out of the notebook.
5. **Writing Materials:** Two working pencils, two erasers in good condition, two red pens. Additional colors may be helpful, but NO BLACK PENS should ever be used.
6. **Other:** a pencil box and a calculator.

Food, Gum, Drinks, etc.:

NO FOOD OR DRINK OF ANY KIND is allowed near the computers. Water may be drunk only when standing 2 meters away from the nearest computer.

Grading Scale: Students will earn points for participation, homework, projects, daily work, tests and quizzes, weighted roughly as follows: 50% Tests, 20% Group Work, 20% Individual Work, and 10% Participation. The grading scale is the standard scale: A (90-100%), B (80-90%), C (70-80%), D (60-70%), F (0-50%). I reserve the right to alter the exact category and grade break points between classes and marking periods.

Homework: All assignments must be attempted individually, first. If you get stuck, ask a group member for help or use the internet. (Note: If no group member has made it to where you are in the assignment; wait patiently, skip to another portion of the assignment, or help them catch up to you.)

<p>Helping includes...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pointing to a good explanation in a reference (notes, book or internet). ➤ Pointing to a similar problem in a reference. ➤ Identifying the concepts needed to solve the problem. ➤ Re-teaching the concepts, but with a different situation. ➤ Pointing out a careless mistakes. 	<p>Helping does not include...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Handing over your paper or code to copy. ➤ Reading any portion of your work, neither steps nor answers. ➤ Telling the group member to just work harder.
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When homework is graded by a fellow student red ink is used. Green ink is reserved for teacher comments. Homework is graded primarily on functionality, readability, and honesty. To earn 100%, most assignments will require a student to go beyond the bare minimum assigned and showcase their individuality (make certain you can explain your code without the internet).

Lab Work: There will be group challenges. It will be the group’s responsibility to document every group member’s contributions to ensure equitable grading.

Tests: There will be frequent small quizzes and occasional tests. Due to the nature of programming, tests are cumulative. Often only handwritten notes will be allowed during tests and quizzes. So, students must be able to write code without copying and pasting from computer files or, especially, the internet.

Make-Up Work

It is the student’s responsibility to complete missed notes and assignments related to an absence.

- Students who are absent from the classroom due to illness or other unforeseeable circumstances have 2 days from the date of return to school to complete all missed assignments/tests/quizzes/labs. Make-up tests may be given during lunch or after school and they may be different from the regular test.
- Students who are absent from the classroom due to planned activities must submit work electronically at the normal time. Tests or quizzes that will be missed will be taken on the day the student returns.
- Speak with me immediately, if you believe you deserve special consideration.

I have read and agree to abide by both the class guidelines, especially in terms of being honest.

Period: _____ Course Title: _____ Date: _____

Student Name (Print): _____ Student Signature: _____

Parent Name (Print): _____ Parent Signature: _____