# AP Computer Science

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**Welcome to AP Computer Science!** Students will be introduced to a new way of thinking about computers as they learn to think as a computer thinks. The Java programming language will be the medium used to teach students a variety of computer science concepts and introductory data structures. Topics include data types, selection statements, looping, files, input and output, arrays, searching and sorting algorithms, graphics, inheritance, interfaces and classes. Students will learn the computer language Java for the purpose of writing interactive programs to achieve a specific outcome thereby enhancing their critical thinking skills and problem solving ability. The AP Computer Science test uses the Java programming language.

**Textbook:**  *A Plus Computer Science* by Stacey Armstrong will be used for lesson slides and labs. This resource is in electronic format and will be pushed out to students through Google Classroom and the Student Shared drive.

**Required Materials:** A binder/folder to hold notes we take in class and various handouts. There is a $10.00 lab fee associated with this class that covers curriculum and software purchases.

**Grading Policy / Homework:** Your grade will be determined on the following scale:

Tests 70%

Labs / Quizzes / Homework 30%

Tests consist of two parts: multiple choice (80% of grade) and free response (20% of grade). We have quizzes occasionally and there is a minimal amount of homework. Lab work is completed in the classroom although students can work on assignments at home if they have been absent and need more time to make up work.

**Lab Discipline:** ***No food or drinks are allowed in the computer lab!***  While in the computer lab students should be engaged in working on their lab assignments and not on the internet. This is NOT a study hall and students should NOT be studying for other courses unless they have completed their computer science assignments. There are generally extra credit assignments that students can work on if they are finished with the regular class assignments. Students will earn a zero on the current assignment if they do not finish by the due date. They are required to adhere to the Responsible Use Guidelines as presented in the student handbook.

**Dishonesty:** Cheating on lab assignments will result in the student receiving a zero on the assignment, a call to parents, and a Tier 1 Honor Code violation. Repeated cheating or cheating on a test is a Tier 2 violation.

**Tutoring Hours:** 4:15 – 4:45 after school in room 336 on Monday – Thursday.

**Tardy Policy:** A student is considered tardy if they are not in the classroom when the bell rings. See the Student Handbook for current tardy policy.

**Computer Science** aligns to the career clusters of Information Technology and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).