# AP Computer Science Principles

Mrs. Paula McKinney

pmckinney@eanesisd.net

<http://whspmckinney.weebly.com/>

(512) 732–9280 ext. 33102

**Welcome to AP Computer Science Principles!** In this course students will develop computational thinking vital for success across all disciplines. This course is unique in its focus on fostering student creativity. Students are encouraged to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using computer software and other technology to explore questions that interest them. They will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society and the world.

**Textbook:**  We use on online curriculum provided by the University of Texas at Austin*.*<https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Futeachcs.gitbooks.io%2Futeach-cs-principles-1819%2Fcontent%2F%3Fkey%3Deeeb-1bfa-3cac&sa=D&sntz=1&usg=AFQjCNEGty4CWxJ3wPkb_Pdo-1gASfu7iA>

**Required Materials:** A binder/folder to hold notes we take in class and various handouts.

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

 Tests/Projects/Major Grades 70%

 Daily Assignments / Homework 30%

The course is divided into six units. Each unit culminates with a project and a multiple choice test. Both are major grades. The project is always collaborative. There may or may not be additional major grades per marking period.

**AP CSP Performance Tasks:** There are two performance tasks that will be completed during class and will help determine a student’s AP score. The Explore task counts as 16% of their AP score, the Create task counts as 24% of their AP score. All students will complete these tasks even if they are not taking the APCSP multiple choice test. The tasks will count as WHS major grades. They are due April 30, 2019.

**Lab Discipline/late assignments:** ***No food or drinks are allowed in the computer lab!***  While in the classroom students should be engaged in working on their 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. I deduct 10 points for each day an assignment/project is late. Students are required to adhere to the Responsible Use Guidelines for Technology as presented in the student handbook.

**Dishonesty:** Cheating on 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).