

Math Teachers - if you have FRESHMAN, can you please share this with them when they are choosing their courses for next year?

There are 2 Computer Science electives available for you to choose from for next year. You are not required to take computer science at all - but if you are interested, this is the difference between the two courses.

If you are interested in Computer Science, please only sign up for ONE of the two courses, based on your past coding experience.

If you do not have room in your schedule for Computer Science next year, but are interested in it, you can always take it your junior or senior year as well.

Introduction to Computer Science:

- 1 semester - the other semester is Human and Social Development and it is mandatory.
- This is a true INTRO course. It is for students who have very little to no programming experience.
- The first quarter, you will learn Scratch. This is a teaching language - not a coding language used in the real world. You will learn the basic principles of coding in this language.
- The second quarter you will learn very basic JavaScript. (This is the language used to make webpages interactive.
- The point of this class is to introduce the basics of programming and hopefully inspire you to pursue learning how to code in the future!

AP Computer Science Principles:

- This is a full year course.
- Designed to be an introductory course for students with NO prior programming experience
- Scope and rigor of the class are also appropriate for students with various levels of prior programming experience
- Course is composed of 5 major “Big Ideas”, each composed of individual and group “labs” designed to help students master content independently.
 - Creative Development (collaborative creation of student-interest-driven programs)
 - Data
 - Algorithm and Programming (data types, programming structures, User-Interface design)
 - Computer Systems and Networks
 - Impacts of Computing (bias, inequity, cybersecurity)
- Each unit is assessed by both a multiple-choice exam and a long-term project.
- Programming Languages taught are JavaScript (Code.org AppLab) and Python (Codeskulptor)
- The AP exam score consists of a programming project and written reflection (30%) and an exam (70%).
- Students who successfully complete the course are well prepared to subsequently take AP Computer Science A.