

Course Outline: Introduction to Computer Science

This course is designed to offer an introduction to computer science. Students will learn the basics of computer programming along with the basics of computer science. The material emphasizes computational thinking and helps develop the ability to solve complex problems.

This course covers the basic building blocks of programming along with other central elements of computer science. It gives a foundation in the tools used in computer science and prepares students for further study in computer science, including AP Computer Science Principles and AP Computer Science A courses.

Prerequisites

No prior computer science knowledge or experience is necessary for this course.

Teaching Strategies

The course was designed to be used in a blended classroom. The primary language for the course is Python. The course will consist of video lectures, daily programming exercises, longer coding assignments, regular quizzes, projects, and exams. Students will also participate in online discussion forums.

One major element of the content is the Code Along videos. In these videos, students are asked to follow along with the instructor as they code. By coding in small chunks and pausing and repeating segments as necessary students are able to work through new topics at their own pace and work towards mastery of the material.

As they master these techniques they are asked to combine them in longer exercises that let them build a deeper understanding of computer science and programming. Regular quizzes and tests give them feedback on their progress.

Unit Overview

Term 1

Unit 1: Beginning in Computer Science Unit 2: Number Calculations and Data

Unit 3: Making Decisions
Unit 4: Repetition and Loops

Unit 5: Graphics

Term 2

Unit 6: For Loops

Unit 7: Text and String Processing

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Unit 8: Functions Unit 9: Arrays Unit 10: 2D Arrays Unit 11: Internet



Term 1 Units

Unit 1: Beginning in Computer Science

Lesson 1: Welcome

Lesson 2: What is Computer Science?

Lesson 3: Using Python – Installing and online IDE

Lesson 4: First Program
Lesson 5: Hardware Basics

Lesson 6: Output Lesson 7: Input

Lesson 8: Data Types and Variables

Lesson 9: Analog vs. Digital

Lesson 10: Bits and Pieces – Understanding Binary

Lesson 11: Career Connection – Who Uses Computer Science?

Assignment: Silly Sentences

Supplemental Activities (available in Teacher Packet only):

More ASCII Art

More Input Practice Problems

• What Is a Computer – Project

Unit 2: Number Calculations and Data

Lesson 1: Computer History
Lesson 2: Basic Calculations
Lesson 3: Modular Division
Lesson 4: Built-in Functions
Lesson 5: Random Numbers

Lesson 6: Color Code Lesson 7: Big Data

Lesson 8: Working with a Real Data Set

Lesson 9: Career Connection – Data Scientists

Assignment: Room Area

Supplemental Activities (available in Teacher Packet only):

Modular Division Practice Problems

Practice Calculations



Unit 3: Making Decisions

Lesson 1: Max and Min
Lesson 2: Simple If's
Lesson 3: Booleans
Lesson 4: If – Else
Lesson 5: Else – If

Lesson 6: Defining Algorithms
Lesson 7: Algorithm Challenge

Lesson 8: History – Turing Machines

Lesson 9: Career Connection – Computer Science in Medicine

Assignment: Chatbot

Supplemental Activities (available in Teacher Packet only):

Basic If-Then Statement Practice Exercises

Unit 4: Repetition and Loops

Lesson 1: Loops

Lesson 2: Count Variables

Lesson 3: Two Ways to End a Loop

Lesson 4: Data Revisited

Lesson 5: Connection – Games with a Purpose (GWAP)

Lesson 6: Making a Game

Lesson 7: Internet - Cybersecurity

Lesson 8: Career Connection - Game Developers

Assignment: Student Schedule

Supplemental Activities (available in Teacher Packet only):

Practice Loops Worksheet

Unit 5: Graphics

Lesson 1: Color Revisited
Lesson 2: X & Y coordinates

Lesson 3: Lines

Lesson 4: Draw a House

Lesson 5: Circles
Lesson 6: Emoticons
Lesson 7: Kaleidoscope
Lesson 8: Animation

Lesson 9: History of Movies

Lesson 10: Career Connection – Computer Science in Entertainment

Assignment: Animation

Supplemental Activities (available in Teacher Packet only):

Practice Line Drawings



Term 2 Units

Unit 6: For Loops

Lesson 1: Review – Looping Lesson 2: Range Function

Lesson 3: For Loops

Lesson 4: Counting By Other Than 1

Lesson 5: Summing

Lesson 6: Review Algorithms and Tracing

Lesson 7: Modeling and Simulation Lesson 8: Introduction to EarSketch

Lesson 9: Career Connection – Dance and Music

Assignment: Shapes

Supplemental Activities (available in Teacher Packet only):

Practice Loops Worksheet

Unit 7: Text and String Processing

Lesson 1: ASCII and Character Functions

Lesson 2: Processing Strings
Lesson 3: Text Files – Input
Lesson 4: Text Files – Output

Lesson 5: Processing Strings in Files

Lesson 6: External Resource: Text Compression

Lesson 7: Journey to Cryptography

Lesson 8: Career Connection – Cybersecurity

Assignment: Random Joke Generator

Unit 8: Functions

Lesson 1: What are Functions?
Lesson 2: Creating Functions

Lesson 3: Parameters

Lesson 4: Chris Bosh on Functions Lesson 5: Functions – Returning values

Lesson 6: Example – Using Several Functions

Lesson 7: Tracing Code

Lesson 8: Functions in EarSketch

Lesson 9: Career Connection – Social Justice

Assignment: Calendar

Supplemental Activities (available in Teacher Packet only):

Subprograms Worksheet



Unit 9: Arrays

Lesson 1: What are Arrays?
Lesson 2: Declaring Arrays
Lesson 3: Element vs Index
Lesson 4: For Loops and Arrays

Lesson 5: Array Functions

Lesson 6: Arrays as Parameters Lesson 7: Arrays and Data

Lesson 8: Sorting and Searching
Lesson 9: Writing a Simple Search
Lesson 10: Writing a Simple Sort

Lesson 11: Career Connection – Sports

Assignment: Personal Organizer

Unit 10: 2D Arrays

Lesson 1: What is a 2D Array?
Lesson 2: Declaring 2D Arrays
Lesson 3: Loops with 2D Arrays
Lesson 4: Algorithms – Part 1
Lesson 5: Algorithms – Part 2
Lesson 6: Tracing Code 2D

Lesson 7: Career Connection – Starting Your Own Business

Assignment: 2D Arrays

Unit 11: Internet

Lesson 1: What is the Internet?
Lesson 2: IP Addressing and DNS
Lesson 3: Packets and Routers

Lesson 4: Making Web Pages – HTML Part 1 Lesson 5: Making Web Pages – HTML Part 2 Lesson 6: Making Web Pages – HTML Part 3

Lesson 7: Cybersecurity Lesson 8: Net Neutrality

Lesson 9: Career Connection – Web Design

Assignment: Build Your Own Webpage

Term 1 Schedule

Week 01

- 1.1 Welcome
- 1.2 What is Computer Science?
- 1.3 Using Python
- 1.4 First Program

Week 02

- 1.5 Hardware Basics
- 1.6 Output
- 1.7 Input
- Unit 1 Quiz

Week 03

- 1.8 Data Types and Variables
- 1.9 Analog vs. Digital
- 1.10 Bits and Pieces Understanding Binary

Week 04

- 1.11 Career Connection Who Uses Computer Science?
- Unit 1 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 1 Lab Assignment Silly Sentences
- Unit 1 Test

Week 05

- 2.1 Computer History
- 2.2 Basic Calculations
- 2.3 Modular Division
- 2.4 Built-in Functions

- 2.5 Random Numbers
- Unit 2 Quiz
- 2.6 Color Code
- 2.7 Big Data
- 2.8 Working with a Real Data Set



Week 07

- 2.9 Career Connection Data Scientists
- Unit 2 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 2 Lab Assignment Room Area
- Unit 2 Test

Week 08

- 3.1 Max and Min
- 3.2 Simple If's
- 3.3 Booleans
- 3.4 If Else

Week 09

- 3.5 Else If
- Unit 3 Quiz
- 3.6 Defining Algorithms
- 3.7 Algorithm Challenge
- 3.8 History Turing Machines

Week 10

- 3.9 Career Connection Computer Science in Medicine
- Unit 3 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 3 Lab Assignment Chatbot
- Unit 3 Test

Week 11

- 4.1 Loops
- 4.2 Count Variables
- 4.3 Two Ways to End a Loop

- 4.4 Data Revisited
- 4.5 Connection Games with a Purpose (GWAP)
- 4.6 Making a Game
- Unit 4 Quiz

Week 13

- 4.7 Internet Cybersecurity
- 4.8 Career Connection Game Developers
- Unit 4 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 4 Lab Assignment Student Schedule
- Unit 4 Test

Week 14

- 5.1 Color Revisited
- 5.2 X & Y coordinates
- 5.3 Lines
- 5.4 Draw a House

Week 15

- 5.5 Circles
- Unit 5 Quiz
- 5.6 Emoticons
- 5.7 Kaleidoscope

Weeks 16-18

- 5.8 Animation
- 5.9 History of Movies
- 5.10 Career Connection Computer Science in Entertainment
- Unit 5 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 5 Lab Assignment Animation
- Unit 5 Test

Term 2 Schedule

Week 01

- 6.1 Review Looping
- 6.2 Range Function
- 6.3 For Loops
- 6.4 Counting by Other Than 1

Week 02

- Unit 6 Quiz
- 6.5 Summing
- 6.6 Review Algorithms and Tracing
- 6.7 Modeling and Simulation

Week 03

- 6.8 Introduction to EarSketch
- 6.9 Career Connection Dance and Music
- Unit 6 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 6 Lab Assignment Shapes
- Unit 6 Test

Week 04

- 7.1 ASCII and Character Functions
- 7.2 Processing Strings
- 7.3 Text Files Input

Week 05

- 7.4 Text Files Output
- Unit 7 Quiz
- 7.5 Processing Strings in Files
- 7.6 External Resource: Text Compression

- 7.7 Journey to Cryptography
- 7.8 Career Connection Cybersecurity
- Unit 7 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 7 Lab Assignment Random Joke Generator
- Unit 7 Test

Week 07

- 8.1 What are Functions?
- 8.2 Creating Functions
- 8.3 Parameters
- 8.4 Chris Bosh on Functions

Week 08

- Unit 8 Quiz
- 8.5 Functions Returning Values
- 8.6 Example Using Several Functions
- 8.7 Tracing Code

Week 09

- 8.8 Functions in EarSketch
- 8.9 Career Connections Social Justice
- Unit 8 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 8 Lab Assignment Calendar
- Unit 8 Test

Week 10

- 9.1 What are Arrays?
- 9.2 Declaring Arrays
- 9.3 Element vs Index
- 9.4 For Loops and Arrays
- 9.5 Array Functions

Week 11

- Unit 9 Quiz
- 9.6 Arrays as Parameters
- 9.7 Arrays and Data
- 9.8 Sorting and Searching
- 9.9 Writing a Simple Search

- 9.10 Writing a Simple Sort
- 9.11 Career Connection Sports
- Unit 9 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 9 Lab Assignment Personal Organizer
- Unit 9 Test



Week 13

- 10.1 What is a 2D Array?
- 10.2 Declaring 2D Arrays
- 10.3 Loops with 2D Arrays

Week 14

- Unit 10 Quiz
- 10.4 Algorithms Part 1
- 10.5 Algorithms Part 2
- 10.6 Tracing Code 2D

Week 15

- 10.7 Career Connection Starting Your Own Business
- Unit 10 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 10 Lab Assignment 2D Arrays
- Unit 10 Test

Week 16

- 11.1 What is the Internet?
- 11.2 IP Addressing and DNS
- 11.3 Packets and Routers

Week 17

- 11.4 Making Web Pages HTML Part 1
- Unit 11 Quiz
- 11.5 Making Web Pages HTML Part 2
- 11.6 Making Web Pages HTML Part 3
- 11.7 Cybersecurity

- 11.8 Net Neutrality
- 11.9 Career Connection Web Design
- Unit 11 Vocabulary & Test Review
- Unit 11 Lab Assignment Build Your Own Webpage
- Unit 11 Test