

Exploring Computer Science

Teacher: Mr. Alvey

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Class Web Page: <http://alveyworld.pineview.org>



Course Description:

Exploring Computer Science is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Exploring Computer Science is to develop in students the computational thinking practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as interface design, limits of computers and societal and ethical issues.

Things you will need:

1. **Notebook** for just this class. We will be writing in a daily journal.
2. **Headphones** (¼ jack, or usb) for sound on the computers.

Grades:

Grades will be a percentage of time spent learning compared to the amount of time available in the classroom. Attendance is critical. Assignments will be recorded to document understanding of topics. Full participation is mandatory.

Making up Time: If you miss time in the classroom or choose not to participate for any reason--excused or not--you can make up the time by studying the class-work at home.

1. Record your **time spent** studying at home and
2. **Write a page** of what you learned (hand written), then
3. Have your **parent/guardian sign** the paper and approve your work.

Grading Scale:

A = 93 to 100%	B+ = 87 to 89%	B- = 80 to 82%	C = 73 to 76%
A- = 90 to 92%	B = 83 to 86%	C+ = 77 to 79%	C- = 70 to 72%

Classroom Rules:

1. RESPECT
2. Active Learning
3. Computers are for learning, not for person use or entertainment
(approved music may be listened to at appropriate times)
4. Help me keep the lab clean

* Please practice good hygiene habits such as regular hand washing, bathing, etc.

* Get plenty of sleep, exercise, and eat healthy

I will contact you via email, please make sure to check your washington county email address that ends with @washk12.org

