



Dutch Fork Middle School

School District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties
1528 Old Tamah Road
Irmo, SC 29063



Course: Fundamentals of Computing I & II

Instructor: Ms. Nicholson

Room: 501

Telephone number: 803.476.4937

Academic Assistance: By Appointment

Email: hnicholson@lexrich5.org

Website: <https://sites.google.com/lexrich5.org/nicholson-teacher-site/home>

Please reference website for additional information on schedules and classroom expectations.

South Carolina

Uniform Grading Scale

A= 100-90

B= 89-80

C= 79-70

D= 69-60

F= Below 60

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Fundamentals of Computing is designed to introduce students to the field of computer science. Students will use critical thinking and problem-solving skills to implement projects that are relevant to students' lives. Students will gain a fundamental understanding of the history and operation of computers, programming, and web design. Students will also be introduced to computing careers and will examine societal and ethical issues of computing. *SC Standards* [Click here](#). *Success Criteria* [Click here](#).

COURSE CREDIT

502800CH (grade 7 for 1/2 high school credit)

502900CH (grade 8 for 1/2 high school credit)

Fundamentals of Computing I & II are high school level courses. When students successfully pass both courses, they are eligible to earn one (1) technology unit.

COURSE MATERIALS

- **Required Textbook**
Cengage - K12 MindTap™ for Exploring Computer Science for South Carolina (online textbook)
- **Software**
CS First (Google Workspace), Applied Digital Skills (Google Workspace), Code.org, CodeHS, and Typing.com
- **Equipment**
Personal Chromebook

SUPPLIES REQUIRED

- Pencils
- Paper
- Folder
- Chromebook (charged)
- Headphones or Earbuds

GRADING

Categories	Weight
Practice	20%
Minor	30%
Major	50%
Cumulative Final Exam is 20% of final course grade	

Topics	
FOC I	FOC II
Keyboarding	Introduction to Computing
Document Processing	Hardware Components
Computing Systems	Software and Operating Systems
Problem Solving	Introduction to Programming
Internet Basics	Data Representation
Research and Information Gathering	Network and Internet
Spreadsheet Fundamentals	Cybersecurity and Ethics
Multimedia and Presentation Tools	Emerging Technologies
Technology Communication Tools	

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is taken within the first few minutes of class. If students come in after the tardy bell without a written excuse, they will be marked as tardy. If students are out of their seats and talking when the tardy bell rings, they will be counted as tardy.

ASSIGNMENTS

Classwork is to be completed and turned in as it is assigned. Tests are to be completed in class on the day they are assigned.

LATE WORK POLICY

It is the student's responsibility to make sure assignments and tests are completed timely. Late assignments, including tests are due five (5) days after the due date of the assignment in PowerSchool. Ten points will be deducted each day after the 5th day the assignment is late.

If a student is absent on the day of a test, but has received all necessary instruction and information, he/she will make up the test on the day he/she returns to class. In any other case, the student must complete the test within five days from the day the test was given, or he/she will receive a grade of **zero (0)** for that test.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic integrity is important for all students at DFMS. Please review the DFMS [Student/Parent Handbook](#).

CHEATING

Cheating is defined as giving or receiving unauthorized assistance.

Plagiarism is defined as presenting as one's own words, phrases, and ideas of another, either on purpose or through carelessness. It also relates to borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, and the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgement.

1st offense

- Homework: 0 on assignment
- Assessment: the average of 0 and the assessment retest grade
- Teacher contacts parent via phone or conference (email is not sufficient)

2nd offense

- Homework: 0 on assignment

- Assessment: the average of 0 and the assessment retest grade
- Referral to guidance and administration
- Student and parent sign contract outlining consequences of third cheating offense

3rd offense

- Homework: 0 on assignment
- Assessment: 0 on assessment
- Referral to administration

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Discipline rules are consistent with the overall discipline rules of Dutch Fork Middle School. Below are specific rules and procedures we expect all students to follow in class.

1. All students are to obey all school rules according to the Student Handbook.
2. Students should come into class on time and be ready to work
3. We treat all people in the classroom with respectful manners and respectful language.
4. A pencil, a charged Chromebook, a two-pocket folder, and a composition notebook dedicated to the Fundamental of Computing class are required every day.
5. Homework is always due next class day without exception. Paper copy classwork should be turned in the next day at the very beginning of class. Google Classroom digital assignments should be turned in by the listed deadline (usually at the time the class period begins).
6. Project deadlines will be provided well in advance with plenty of class time to complete them.
7. Always check the whiteboards for the agenda, standards, objectives, and important updates.
8. If a student is absent, assignments will be posted (as promptly as possible) in Google Classroom. All paper copies distributed on the day missed will be labeled with the student's name in the "What did I miss box?" in the classroom.
9. No food or drink (except water) will be allowed in the classroom unless a special circumstance or occasion arises.
10. Grades will be updated routinely, and parents are invited to monitor student progress through Parent Portal (PowerSchool) or by contacting me via email, or through a phone call or conference. Please make sure all contact information is correct in our [Parent Portal](#) system.