



# AP Computer Science Principles Course Syllabus

## AP Computer Science Principles

### Course Description

AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing course that introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Students learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students also explain how computing innovations and computing systems—including the internet—work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

For a detailed description of the class and its objectives see: If there are any other test details or items you want to share about the course, you can do that below. If not, just delete this section.

<http://apcsprinciples.org/>

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-computer-science-principles>

The AP Test was developed to be programming-language agnostic. The class can be taught using any modern programming language. We will use a curriculum developed and hosted by Code.org. It uses a visual JavaScript environment and other online tools designed for this class.

### Assistance

If you have course related questions such as questions about due dates, assignment directions, lesson material, etc. please contact your instructor immediately via Canvas message (if courses have started) or via direct email (if courses have not started). Your instructor's email and name can be found after logging in by clicking on Course Information or can be found on the homepage of your course after classes begin.

**After courses begin, all communications between instructor and student should happen from Canvas Messaging.**



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If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with your account please visit <https://niswongeronline.com/questions/> to submit a trouble ticket or contact:

Mr. Chris Dotson  
Technology Support Lead, Niswonger Online & APAA  
[cdotson@niswongerfoundation.org](mailto:cdotson@niswongerfoundation.org)

You can also visit this page for answers to frequently asked questions:  
<https://niswongeronline.com/student-help-resources/>

For other concerns that have not been addressed by your teacher or by our Technology Support Team contact:

Dr. Gina Pavlovich  
Director AP Access for ALL & Niswonger Online  
[gpavlovich@niswongerfoundation.org](mailto:gpavlovich@niswongerfoundation.org)

Mrs. Samatha DeBord  
Assistant Director, AP Access for ALL  
[sdebord@niswongerfoundation.org](mailto:sdebord@niswongerfoundation.org)

**\*\*NOTE that ONLY your school Counselor or local Administrator can request a course change or drop. No one within the APAA program can approve this.\*\***

## Course Outline

This course has a total of 108 assignments that students are required to complete. Any assignments not completed by the course checkpoints or final course due date will become a 0%.

List module/chapter names here for example:

Module: Academic Integrity  
Module: Canvas Introduction  
Module: College Board Account Creation  
Module: Introduction  
Module: Unit 1 Digital Information  
Module: Unit 2 The Internet  
Module: Unit 3 Intro to App Design  
Module: Unit 4 Variables, Conditions, and Functions  
Module: Unit 5 Data Analysis and Visualization



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Module: Unit 6 Lists, Loops, and Traversals  
Module: Unit 7 Parameters, Return, and Libraries  
Module: Unit 8 Cybersecurity and Global Impacts  
Module: Unit 9 Create PT Prep  
Module: Unit 10 Algorithms  
AP Test Review

## Grading Policy

**Activities 20%**

**AP Classroom/ Quizzes 40%**

**Assessments/Projects 40%**

### AP Access for ALL Late Work Policy

It is essential that all students complete their assigned work in a timely manner. For this reason, there are checkpoints throughout the course to help keep students on track. Failure to complete all assignments by the checkpoint dates will result in students getting a 0% on those assignments.

All checkpoint dates and course module due dates can be found on your course homepage.

**Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines—late work will only be accepted with a compelling reason and instructor approval.** If you know of a reason that you cannot meet a deadline, please let your teacher know as soon as possible. For example, if you will be on a trip and may not have internet access the teacher needs to know before the due date – NOT after the due date. It is your responsibility to let him/her know ahead of time.

### Viewing Grades and Feedback in Canvas


Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to your Canvas Grade Book. Click on the Grades link on the left navigation to view your grades and feedback.

Your teacher will update the online grades each time a due date has passed. Check back for updated grades and feedback within 7 days after submission.



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It is also important to read or view all feedback given by your teacher. This is how a student will grow within the course. Feedback can be viewed from your Canvas gradebook by clicking on

the small icon-  out from your numerical grade.

## Course Policies

### IEP/ 504/ ILP Accommodations

If you have a student with approved accommodations, please read the linked policy below. This information is shared with high schools at the beginning of each semester to ensure counselors understand our accommodations and can communicate them to APAA teachers to meet students' needs.

[Student/ Guardian Copy- Procedures for APAA Student Accommodations](#)

### Commit to Integrity

As a student in this course, you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism and integrity.

**Cheating** is “the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means.”

**Plagiarism** is “the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.”

### Niswonger Online Plagiarism Policy

All students will be asked to read the Niswonger Online plagiarism policy and complete an assignment to show understanding BEFORE any work in the course can be accessed or completed. The plagiarism policy and corresponding assignment is linked in the second module, labeled Academic Integrity, within each course. Go to

<https://niswongeronline.com/academic-integrity/> to view the plagiarism policy without logging into the course.

### Build Rapport

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your teacher know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that



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you are proactive in informing your teacher when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

### Submitting Assignments

**All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Canvas unless otherwise instructed.** If you have any trouble submitting your assignment in Canvas you should contact your teacher or the Niswonger Online Technology team immediately.

### Course Enrollment and Drops

Students can only be enrolled in a Niswonger Online course by their home high school's counselor, AP Liaison, or administrator.

Course drops can only be approved by school personnel (counselor, AP Liaison, or administrator). **Online teachers, the APAA director, or APAA Assistant Director cannot approve any course changes.** Each school has its own policy on when a student may drop their online course. Please see your school counselor or administrator if you have any questions about this.