

Computer Science with Mr. Mayer

Overview

Welcome back to school! This class is taught to the CUSD Standards for Technology and includes the following topics: basic computer operations and concepts, productivity tools, communication tools, coding, and research tools.

The 7th/8th grade computer course will challenge the student with application and evaluation of various computer applications, developing their literacy and competence in computer technology. Some of the units include desktop publishing, spreadsheets, programming, website design with HTML 5/CSS, PhotoShop, electronics, robotics, and video.

Additionally, students will participate in a curriculum called ICE 9: Identify Change and Evaluate. The curriculum will help students better understand and evaluate technology on a social and ethical level.

In terms of coding, the course will have opportunities to work on self-paced simulations for learning how to code first using block coding on websites like flowlab.io, scratch.mit.edu, and code.org. Later, students will learn Python and some JavaScript. However, students will also create coding projects from start to finish using just an integrated development environment (IDE) to include some programming on Raspberry Pi.

Some time will be spent on desktop publishing as well. Students will learn about how to present their documents with principles of design. They will be able to apply the ideas of balance. Visual balance, proximity, alignment, consistency, contrast, and white space will be applied to projects such as making fliers, slide shows, digital books, trading cards, and reports.

Additionally, students will develop their own website on a specific topic. Besides applying principles of design, students will learn HTML and CSS standards. They will create this website from scratch using a simple text editor.

Throughout the year, electronics will be explored using Arduino. In the spring, students will delve into robotics using Lego EV3 and Vex robots.

I look forward to working with students on a wide variety of projects, even beyond the ones mentioned, throughout the year!

Grading

Students will be graded on participation in projects throughout the year.

Projects will be graded for:

- 1) Quality of content and
- 2) Completion of provided project requirements.

Grading Scale:

A (90-100%) B (80-89%) C (70-79%) D (50-69%)

A=Standard Exceeded

C=Near Standard

B=Standard Met or Proficient

D=Below Standard

Citizenship

Outstanding = Actively and consistently participates and contributes to a safe, supportive atmosphere in the classroom on a daily basis.

Satisfactory = Actively and consistently participates and contributes to a safe, supportive atmosphere in the classroom most of the time.

Needs Improvement = Participates only when prompted and sometimes contributes to a safe, supportive atmosphere in the classroom. Interrupts the learning environment.

Unsatisfactory = Is usually disruptive to the safe, supportive atmosphere necessary for the classroom.

Classroom Procedures

Be respectful to all.

Be prompt and prepared.

Always do your personal best.

Consequences

1st time: Warning

2nd time: Removed from class & Parent Contacted

Certain behaviors will result in an immediate dismissal from class and/or referral. See CMS Student Handbook for details.

Parent-Teacher Contact

Ensuring normal study routines and asking your child questions about what they are working on will help maintain high achievement standards.

In addition, it is important that parents & guardians contact me if they have any concerns about their student. Please, leave messages at **x3652** or email me at **smayer@carmelunified.org**

Current grades can also be tracked on **AERIES gradebook**.

All assignments can be found on **Google Classroom**.