

Mission Bay High School

AP Computer Science A

Course Syllabus

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Welcome to AP Computer Science A! This AP course is equivalent to a one-semester college course in introductory computer programming.

Software and website resources: See [this page](#) for a list of the resources that will be used in class and/or installed on the computers we'll be using. You are free to bring your own computer to class however you accept all responsibility for security and maintenance of your belongings. All required programs are installed in the class computer lab. Using your own computer in class is subject to all Mission Bay technology policies and any misuse will result in your computer not being allowed in class.

Course organization: All of the assignments and projects for APCSA are listed on the Assignment list linked on the class website. Instructions, background information, project descriptions and requirements, and resources - including video tutorials and explanations - will be linked on the Assignment list for your reference. Since APCSA is primarily a project-based course, your assignments will typically be work covering multiple days where you have produced a programming product like a Java class, a code test case, or a complete programming project. Each Unit contains at least one thorough java programming project. Students sometimes have the option of working in groups but no group work is mandated.

Grading: Your course grade is based on the projects that you've done in class and other classwork which will include unit tutorials, answers to questions posed in class, the Problems of the Day (2nd semester only), and in-class quizzes.

AI Usage: Any assignment suspected of being created or significantly aided by artificial intelligence tools will **require** the student to formally demonstrate proficiency in the relevant code, writing, or art concepts. Failure or declining to do so will result in receiving a grade of 0 (F) for the assignment. In the case of group work, each member must individually demonstrate understanding, otherwise all group members will be penalized.

Assignments and Weights

Projects & quizzes	75%
Other classwork	25%

Assessments and Late Work

You will be assessed on your classwork, projects, presentations, and answers to Mr. Jaffe's questions during class. Assessments will be submitted through Google folders using your class Google account. Students may receive late credit on assignments turned in after the Unit due date. In order to receive this credit, the student must inform Mr. Jaffe through email or in class to have it graded for late credit.

Grading scale:

Letter grade	Score range
A	90% and up
B	80% to 89.9%
C	70% to 79.9%
D	60% to 69.9%
F	59.9% and below

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Attendance

Attendance and punctuality are essential in a quality employee and therefore are a very important part of this class. Mission Bay High School's attendance and tardy policy (please see the student handbook) will be strictly enforced.

Citizenship

Grade will be defined by the Mission Bay High Citizenship rubric. The grade will be evaluated on the following areas:

- Attendance
- Effort and readiness to learn
- Classroom conduct
- Academic honesty
- Acceptable electronic use

Classroom Rules:

- Be responsible
 - Show up on time and ready to work
 - Stay on task
 - Show initiative – be self-motivated!
- Be respectful
 - No bullying of any sort
 - No playing games or using technology improperly or disrespectfully
 - No mistreating classroom property
 - Pick up after yourself (no littering)

Phone Policy:

The [SDUSD Cell Phone Policy](#) will be strictly enforced. Cell phones must be out of sight and turned off during instructional time. This includes peripherals such as earbuds and smart-watches. Cell phone use is permitted before and after school, during lunch, and during passing period only. Usage of cell phones in class is grounds for confiscation by the teacher or administrators and continued unauthorized use may lead to disciplinary action. There will be specific cases of authorized phone usage during class time by a teacher for academic work. These are selective, specific, and clearly stated to students during a specific Unit of study mid-year.

Parent/Student Agreement

I have received and agree to the expectations in the 2026-27 AP Computer Science A Syllabus. By signing below, I agree to contribute to my own success.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Name: _____

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Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____