

Exploring Computer Science (ECS)

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Course Overview

ECS is a course that explores all the current possible Computer Sciences classes available during High School. We will cover software, hardware, programming, AI, Cybersecurity, Web Development, Game Development, Networking, and Esports.

The course is broken down into four units:

1. Computing Ideas
2. Programming
3. Cyber Security
4. Exploring Web Design

We are just going to cover the bare basics to give you the student a chance to experience a fraction of each item covered. If you would like to learn more, you can sign up for the High School class that goes into more detail. The first two units will be the first term of the class while the last two units will be the second term of the class.

Expectations

As time is valuable and you can't get it back once wasted; it is important that students be on time, logged in, and ready to go when the bell rings. Students will sit in their assigned seats and use the classroom computers for coursework. Student participation in discussions can help with their learning, students talking to friends and not listening waste time and cause classroom disruptions. Hands on learning is done in this class, please do not goof off, especially when we are using tools, taking computers apart, or trying to do group activities.

As Utah has passed 53-7-226 this law Prohibits the use of Electronic Devices during school hours. Please leave your phone in your locker in accordance with Dixie Middle School Policy. If you have a Smart Watch, in my class you will remove the watch and place it in your backpack. If you have an Exception per the Law/Policy, please let me know.

Rules

1. Listen to the teacher
2. Do not plug anything into the computer, or unplug anything from the computer
3. No Drinks, expect Water in a spill proof water bottle. (Anything else will be thrown in the trash can)
4. Do not prevent other students from doing their work
5. Follow all School Policies and Procedures and Follow all Classroom Procedures
6. You will only sit in your assigned seat

Assignments

This is not an online course, please come to class so you can learn and complete the assignments. If you follow this, you should not have any homework. Per Dixie Middle School Policy assignments are worth 30% of your grade while tests and quizzes are worth 70% of your grade. Please make sure not to fall behind. Per Dixie Middle School Policy you will have until Mid-Term to turn in assignments for the first part of the term and then the end of the term for the assignments in that time frame. I however will allow you all term in turn in missing assignments up until the last day of class until the end of the school day; I will not take assignments after 2:50 pm on the last day of the term as I have to grade them and enter them for your final grade of the term. Make sure that you do the assignment correctly the first time as you cannot turn in assignments more than once. If you have a 504 or an IEP with special provisions, please let me know as I teach 4 different classes and have up to 250 students per term and I cannot keep track of everything for you. Please take some personal responsibility for what you need.

Fun

While this is school and school is designed for you to learn, if you follow the rules and participate you may find that we can have fun with learning. This is the first year that this is being taught in Washington County, so the course is a work in progress. Be prepared for Mr. Tracy to make Dad Jokes and obscure references to 70's, 80's, and 90's pop culture. As I grew up during the time of the PC revolution, I have worked with computers for a long time and can relate to much of what is being taught in the class. I will do my best within the guardrails the district has placed on the computer to make the class as fun as possible using my limited imagination.