



Continuing a Culture of Excellence

Pre-AP Computer Science and Principles of IT

Ronny Armstrong
rarmstrong@ems-isd.net
Twitter: MrRonnyArmstrong

Conference Period: 6th Period 1:40 – 2:30

Tutoring Opportunities: Monday-Friday 8:30-9am

Class Materials:

All material is available through Canvas, an online website. Assignments and projects will be turned in through this website. Assignments can be turned in from home when absent. **Pre-AP Computer Science:** This beginning programming course emphasizes technical writing, critical thinking, and problem solving and logic skills. Students will design, implement (code), debug, document and test small programs to solve a wide range of common programming problems. Students create solutions to stated problems in the Visual Basic.NET programming language. The Java programming language is introduced.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Write code to solve a variety of problems
- Understand computational thinking
- Build and network a PC
- Learn about the internet and how WANs operate

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum ten per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

It is imperative that students focus on classroom lecture and assignments. During class, students should have their phone and headphones put away. Students who complete work before class is over should enhance their assignment or move on to the next unit.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

Most all classwork can be completed in class. In the event that a student gets behind or has an exam, they are expected to catch up and study at home. Make-up work and exam retakes will follow the outline explained in the student handbook.

Classroom Expectations:

During the course of unit students will read a Unit material, complete labs, worksheets and quizzes. Then afterwards take an exam. Students should apply the 10-24-7 rule to prepare for the exam.

10 minutes after taking notes- circle key vocabulary, paraphrase and highlight

24 hours afterwards- write higher-level questions regarding the material

7 days afterwards- write a summary of the unit and study the notes

30 days afterwards- review all notes and material

Students who do this retain 95% of the information. (Cornell Notes)

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.