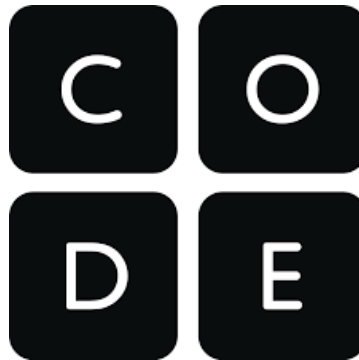


Intro to Computer Science - Syllabus
Sault Area High School and Career Center

CS Discoveries – Code.org



Ms. Katie Watchorn
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Conference Hour: 1:15-2:05 pm (6th Hour)

Course Overview:

Prerequisite:

Successful completion (B+ or above) of Math Grade 8 and English Grade 8.

Purpose Statement and Course Content

Computer science is everywhere, from our smartphones and video games to music, medicine, and much more. This course introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. More than a traditional introduction to programming, it is a rigorous, engaging, and approachable course that explores many of the foundational ideas of computing, so all students understand how these concepts are transforming the world we live in. Computer science prepares all students to be active and informed contributors to our increasingly technological society whether they pursue careers in technology or not.

Computer Science Discoveries (CS Discoveries) is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun.

Explore the following website for more information.

https://code.org/files/CSDiscoveries_1-pager.pdf

Computer Science Discoveries is an introductory computer science course. Mapped to CSTA standards, the course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as problem solving, programming, physical computing, user centered design, and data, while inspiring students as they build their own websites, apps, animations, games, and physical computing systems.

Additional Information

We are using the Microsoft Teams learning management platform this semester. Students are expected to login into Teams every day to check their daily/weekly assignments and schedule. If a student missed class, this is where they are expected to go to see what they need to make-up. We will also be using the code.org platform this semester as well and students will be notified in Teams if they need to login into code.org to acquire, complete or submit any assignments/assessments throughout the semester.

Classroom Rules

- Students must show respect for the instructor and other students.
- There should be no talking while myself or anyone else is talking to the class.
- Return all books to stands or bookshelf at the end of the class period.
- Clean up desk/computer area before you leave the classroom.
- No student may leave the classroom without the permission of the instructor.
- Students should remain near their seats until the bell rings.
- Students aren't allowed to download anything on the classroom computers. Anyone found downloading may lose their computer privileges.
- *Printing*: There will be no printing on the printers unless instructed to do so. If you would like to use the printer, you must ask first.

Classroom Cell Phone Policy

All cell phones must be on silent or vibrate and must be put away during class. There are phone charging stations in class, which are labeled by seat number. Students need to store their phones there during class and are allowed to charge them if necessary. Phones may be used for a few class assignments with permission from the teacher. Any student found using a cell phone when not instructed to do so, will lose points from their employability grade and/or will have their phone taken away and turned into the office for pickup at the end of the day.

Headphones / Air Pods / Hats

Students are only allowed to wear headphones when needed for an assignment or when given permission to listen to music (on computer only). Students should never use headphones when the teacher, speaker, or any other person is addressing the class. This is very disrespectful to the presenter as well as a disruption to the learning process.

Headphones should never be connected to a mobile phone.

Absences and Tardies

If you have a job and don't show up to work – you don't get paid! This is a philosophy that I try hard to embed in my kids, because it is hard for any student to keep up and learn in any class if they are not there. Any work missed due to an excused absence, however, can be made up without penalty. It is the student's responsibility to check Microsoft Teams every day to see what was missed. If the assignment was completed in-person, the student can ask the instructor on the day of returning from an absence to obtain any make-up assignments. A "0" will be placed in the gradebook for any missing work until the work is made-up and any work not made up within the specified time given by the instructor will result in a "0" for the missing assignment (This includes daily employability points and an alternative assignment and/or task will be given to make up their missing points).

You need to take responsibility for your work, and you need to keep up to date with what is happening within our classroom. Check teams for any missing work when absent.

Grading

Grading will be based on a combination of daily classwork, productivity, employability skills, quizzes and tests. Every student's grade is based on total points with:

80% Assignments, projects, quizzes, and tests

20% Weekly Productivity / Participation (See Productivity / Employability page below - for more details).

**Assignments will be completed in class and due that same day – there will be no assigned homework unless you have missed the class.*

Late Assignments

All assignments are due on the assignment due date. All late work will be graded based on effort and timeliness.

Grading Scale

A 100-93	C 73-76
A- 90-92	C- 70-72
B+ 87-89	D+ 67-69
B 83-86	D 63-66
B- 80-82	D- 60-62
C+ 77-79	E 0-59

Remote Learning:

When remote learning is necessary students are required to participate in all activities of this course. This will include checking in for attendance and doing assignments. Student's will be using, but not limited to platforms of interactions such as: Microsoft Teams, using various Online Programs or Platforms, Digital Textbooks, and their school E-mail account.

Note: Due to the pandemic, this syllabus is subject to change if we move to a virtual or hybrid format. You will be made aware of any changes as soon as possible if this were to happen.

COVID 19 Classroom Procedures:

- 1) Masks are not required at the start of the school year (but this is subject to change)
- 2) Students are to enter the room and take their assigned seat.
- 3) Students are only allowed to use the bathroom during class through permission (handwashing req.).
- 4) Students will be responsible for disinfecting desk surfaces and working equipment after use.
- 5) Water bottles are allowed in classroom (filled only at designated filling stations)
- 6) Students will be dismissed from their seats at the end of the class period

Classroom Contributions

As we are preparing for you to enter the workforce and preparing you for college, our classroom will be treated as a work environment. As such, you are encouraged to collaborate and interact with your peers in a way that enhances your learning and productivity. It's expected that all students show respect toward one another, the instructor, and any classroom equipment. All students will be contributing members of the team, so let's all work together towards a common goal of having a highly rewarding school year. Please feel free to come in for additional support as needed. I will be available before and after school; you just need to make an appointment. Here is to a wonderful year! ☺

Productivity and Employability Skills

Employability skills are those traits that are looked upon favorably by an employer—positive attitude, on time, good work habits, etc. The Intro to Computer Science class at the SAHSCC will help students develop these traits, so they will be more prepared for college/career. Therefore, a weekly grade will be based on employability skills, class behavior and productivity. Please see below for a more thorough description about the point structure

Each day students will be given an assignment. Students will lose points by doing any of the following actions and/or behaviors listed below.

REDUCTION OF POINTS

TARDY/LATE FOR CLASS
QUITTING WORK EARLY
UNPREPARED FOR WORK Includes books, pencils, workbooks, writing materials etc. All materials should be brought with you to class at the START of the period
OFF TASK
COMPLETING CLASSWORK THOROUGHLY AND AS INSTRUCTED
LEAVE WORK AREA BEFORE CLEANING UP
INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR Includes eating/drinking during class, excessive socialization, disruptive behavior or inappropriate behavior
LEAVING CLASS WITHOUT PERMISSION Students must have a hall pass; this is limited to one student at a time; five-minute limit
ON THEIR PHONE DURING CLASS Students need to learn that being on their phone during a job could cost them their job. Phones are not allowed during class, unless I allow time at the end of the hour for good behavior. Phone Etiquette

PLUS POINTS

In addition, a TEACHER OBSERVATION EVALUATION will be a part of the employability skills grade and includes these factors:

1. Pays attention and follows directions
2. Works well with minimal supervision
3. Works up to potential and shows maximum effort
4. Works cooperatively as a member of a group
5. Makes effective use of time and/or materials
6. Demonstrates initiative and motivation
7. Has a cooperative, positive attitude

**Intro to Computer Class
Parent/Guardian Contact Form and Syllabus Check-in
2023-2024 School Year**

I'm a 21st century teacher, ready to teach your 21st century learner!



Please click on the link below or scan the QR code above...

to electronically sign that you have read the class syllabus. I would also like for you to provide me with your necessary contact information, as I think it's very important for us to have a way to stay in touch.

[Intro to Computer Science- Parent/Guardian Contact Form and Syllabus Check-in](#)

*Alternatively, you can hand write this information below and return it to class by the end of the first week as part of the student's first grade for the class.

By completing this form, you are acknowledging that you've read through the Intro to Computer Science class syllabus for the 2023-2024 school year.

Tare care and let's have a wonderful school year!
Ms. Watchorn

Student Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Best Contact # to reached you: _____

Secondary Contact # to reached you (optional): _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

My syllabus is available on my SAHS teacher page for you to view as well:

<https://www.saultschools.org/Page/8293>