Chandler Unified School District
CSC710 Computer Science Discoveries
SY 2023-24

Course Overview

Course Description
CS Discoveries is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic projects and engage with computer science for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. Students become familiar with coding concepts and the design process through web development, the construction of games and apps, and physical computing. Students create and share content through puzzles, challenges, and real-world scenarios.

AP/IB/Dual Enrollment
No

Prerequisite/Fee(s)
None

Course Materials
Students will need earbuds/headphones.

Adopted Resource(s)
Code.org Computer Science Discoveries

An asterisk will indicate a resource containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions. CUSD has determined that all resources listed above are of exceptional educational value.

Site and Faculty Information

School name and address:
Arizona College Prep Middle School, 1150 W Erie St, Chandler, AZ 85224

Building principal:
Manjula Reddy
reddy.manjula@cusd80.com

Teacher:
Julia Palazzi, M.Ed. and Dana Shaw M.Ed.
shaw.dana@cusd80.com
Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Course Access
This course is taught in-person at Arizona College Prep Middle School. Students will have access to the curriculum and instruction in the classroom. Google Classroom is the primary location for students to access material when absent from classes taught in person.

Help

Academic Support
- Contact the teacher to schedule an appointment during office hours
- Ed Tech support for students, parents/guardians, and community link (cusd80.com/Page/45109)

Mental Health Support
- CUSD mental health support cusd80.com/Domain/10528 or 480-573-8808 (talk or text)
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 9-8-8 hotline
- 24-hour Crisis Line Talk: 602-222-9444, Text: 741-741

Student Conduct, Success, and Responsibilities

Student Handbook

Students must follow the policies and procedures established in the Student Handbook. Copies of the handbook can be found at cusd80.com/handbooks. Printed copies will be provided upon request.

Student Responsibilities

Students are required to design original work. If any ideas, including designs, are downloaded and used as part of your work, you must give credit to the source. Students who plagiarize will receive a zero on the project and will be referred to the office for disciplinary consequences. Plagiarism is defined as "the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own" (dictionary.com).
Class expectations:
Be respectful to others. No yelling or interfering with others working.
Follow directions.
Clean up our work space.
Use all technology only when instructed.
Follow all school rules, including dress code.
Absolutely no food/gum/drinks.

Late work

All projects have deadlines; however, some students design at different paces and have varying levels of difficulty in their work. Some students may need extra time to perfect their projects. We are flexible with make-up work and accepting late work; however, class time cannot be guaranteed to catch up after an absence. We can work together to create a timeline for completing any late work so that you are able to finish all of your designs and feel proud of your work without receiving penalties and deductions. The "missing" score will be changed once you turn in the work; however, any missing work not turned in after two weeks from the due date will receive a permanent 0 unless a work timeline has been agreed upon.

Assessments and Assignments

Students will complete assessments during each unit of study to assess their understanding. Students will complete the CUSD Common Final at the end of the first and second semesters. The Common Final will count for 20% of the student's final semester grade in grades 9-12 and 10% in grades 7-8 (some exceptions may apply at the Junior High level). Common finals will be in ELA, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language.

Final exams will be given during the CUSD Jr High/High School Early Dismissal days in December and May, as identified on the District Calendar.

If students are requested to participate in a survey, the survey questions will be provided to parents/guardians seven days before student contact.

Grading

Grade Percentage

A	B	C	D	F
90% - 100%	80% - 89%	70% - 79%	60% - 69%	<60%

Quarter grades

Each lesson/project has a rubric with a set of guidelines and constraints. Students often have input on assessing how their solution to the given problem matches with the criteria provided.
During problem-based learning time, students will earn grades based on the criteria below:
5 pts – Demonstrating understanding of the Computer Science Objective
5 pts – Actively engaged in the class activities, staying on-task, working collaboratively with peers, and staying positive

Semester grades

Semester grades are calculated using 40/40/20: Each quarter accounts for 40% of the semester grade and the final exam accounts for the remaining 20%.

Units of study

Units for CSC710 Computer Science Discoveries

Problem Solving and Computing
Web Development
Interactive Games and Animations
AI and Machine Learning (time permitting)

An asterisk will indicate a unit of study containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions.