

8th Grade Computer Science

Course Syllabus Outline

STEM Lab

Course Overview:

Adams 12 follows the Computer Science Teachers Association standards in middle school technology and computer courses. These standards are designed to help students develop a clear understanding of the principles and practices of computer science. For detailed information regarding the standards, please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/cstastandards/home>.

Curriculum:

8th Grade Computer Science at STEM Lab will utilize lessons designed by STEM Lab and Adams 12 teachers. Students will use the problem solving and the design process to learn about programming, web development, animation, computing, and data systems.

Teacher

Becky Muller

Email:

Rebecca.Muller@adams12.org

Classroom Location

H124

Adv Computer Topics:

- Algorithms and Programming
 - Computing Systems
 - Data and Analysis
- Impacts of Computing
- Networks and the Internet

Grading:

As a district, Adams 12 utilizes standards based grading.

Important aspects of standards based grading

- Standards are assessed on a four-point scale (4: Advanced Understanding of Standard; 3: Meets Standard; 2: Approaching the Standard; 1: Does not meet the Standard)
- ONLY assessments are used in calculating a grade
- Practice is not used to calculate grades but feedback will be given to help students achieve standard
- Grades are not averaged to compute an overall grade
- The most recent (trend) data is used to assign an overall grade
- Zeros (missing assignments) are not included in assigning an overall grade
- Students are given multiple opportunities to demonstrate knowledge of a standard

Computer Science Grade Reporting Criteria

Also, your student will be assigned not one, but FIVE grades, one in each of following areas:

- Algorithms and Programming
- Computing Systems
- Data and Analysis
- Impacts of Computing
- Networks and the Internet

Homework Policy:

Practice including homework will be assigned and valuable feedback will be given to students about their assignments. Responding to this feedback will greatly enhance your student's ability to demonstrate their understanding of a particular standard, however homework (like all practice) will not be used to assign a grade.

Late Work Policy:

Assignments will be given and valuable, specific feedback on those lessons will be provided in return. Responding to this feedback in timely way will greatly enhance your student's ability to meet the standard, however there will be no penalty to a grade for late work.

Communication:

Communication between parent/guardians and teachers is a vital component in your student's education. Please check your student's agenda each day to find a list of topics and assignments from each class. You may occasionally receive comments from us in the agenda, and you are welcome to use this as a communication tool as well. Be sure to visit your child's Google Classroom (<https://classroom.google.com/h>) with your child to track daily homework and long-term project assignments.

- To track your student's academic achievement, you may access the parent portal through our website (<http://stem.adams12.org/>).
- Contact the Main Office to set up your family's login information at 720-972-3340.
- The best way to reach me is by email. Teachers are not available to take telephone calls during the day, but feel free to leave voice mail messages.
- Please schedule an appointment if you would like to meet with a teacher or a core team.

Student Expectations:

- Treat every individual in class with respect, even if at times you do not agree with him/her.
- Come to class with all materials required and participate fully.
- Ask questions which will enhance your learning.
- Refrain from any activity that interferes with the learning of your peers.

Tardy Policy:

- Students need to be inside the classroom when the bell rings
- Consequences for tardiness include: documented tardy, student conference; phone call to advise parent/guardian of tardiness; before/after school detention for 30 minutes; referral to administrator.

Finally, it will be a great pleasure to meet and get to know you and each of your students. I look forward to an exciting year exploring science.