



AP Information Night

“AP Computer Science A (AP Comp Sci)”

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Dan Eliot
Computer Science Teacher, Tech Rep
Yorba Linda High School
1.714.986.7500 x14337
deliot@pylusd.org
<http://www.MrEliot.com/>

RECOMMENDED AP REVIEW BOOK:

Title: Barron's AP Computer Science A with CDROM (6th Edition)
<http://amzn.to/Zeq3Gp> \$25.26 as of 05-22-2013
ISBN-10: 1438072775
ISBN-13: 978-1438072777

NOTE: While this book is optional, I will be taking quiz questions directly from this book.

WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE COMPUTER SCIENCE?

- “Everybody in this country should learn how to program a computer... because it teaches you how to think.” -- Steve Jobs
- “What most schools don’t teach” video... <http://code.org/>
- “Three of the Top 10 jobs [in Orange County], including Number One, are in **Information Technology (IT)** and provide high salaries and abundant benefits.” <http://bit.ly/K2mWHC>

BASIC COURSE CONTENT:

- Karel J Robot, Intro To Java (3 weeks)
- ICT AP Computer Science A curriculum lessons (30 weeks)
- Robotics using Finch Robots (after AP Exam, 5 weeks)

YOU WILL BE MORE SUCCESSFUL IN AP JAVA IF YOU:

- Are willing to think and do for yourself, and not have others solve problems for you
- Have sufficient math and science background, the more, the better!
- Are self-motivated, comfortable with computers, and able to work on your own
- Lean towards a career in technology, computers, math, science, engineering, etc.

SUMMER HOMEWORK:

There is no summer homework packet for AP Computer Science. Learning Java is best done together in class where we can deal with errors and problems as a team. If you have not programmed in the past, you could experiment with one of these programming environments:

- **Processing** <http://processing.org/>
- **Fullerton College STEM** <http://engageinstemfc.com/>
- **Greenfoot** <http://www.greenfoot.org/>
- **Alice** <http://www.alice.org/>
- **Microsoft Small Basic** <http://smallbasic.com/>

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS?

Wednesday, May 22nd, 2013

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CURRENT AP COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS

If you could give advice to next year's AP computer science students, what would it be?

- Study
- Stay focused
- Don't miss class
- Read the project before you do it
- Try to solve it on your own before getting help
- "Be the code, understand the code, defeat the code"
- Don't be afraid to ask Mr. Eliot questions
- Take advantage of lunch and after school lab time
- Walk through the code line by line
- Pick a good seat, pick good teams / groups