

FOLSOM CORDOVA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Folsom Middle School  
2022-2023  
**Exploratory Wheel: PLTW Computer  
Science**

Mr. Hatcher, Room 210  
phatcher@fcusd.org

[www.fcusd.org/Domain/1234](http://www.fcusd.org/Domain/1234)

**Folsom Middle School Mission:** At Folsom Middle School we provide a safe environment where all students are able to learn and grow and are empowered to make responsible life choices.

**Folsom Middle School Vision:** Students, staff, and families work collaboratively to prepare students to be academically, socially, and emotionally capable. Students will develop appropriate coping skills and be able to communicate, be creative, think critically, and work individually and as a team to be prepared for future success.

**Project Lead the Way: Gateway** computer science courses introduce students to the field of computer science and the concepts of computational thinking, through the creation of mobile apps and construction of physical computing systems utilizing microcontrollers. There are two courses: **Computer Science for Innovators and Makers (CSIM)** and **App Creators (AC)**.

From Project Lead the Way:

**CSIM:** “This unit will allow students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Throughout the unit, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. They will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life.”

**App Creators:** “This unit will expose students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.”

source: [www.pltw.org/our-programs/pltw-gateway-curriculum#curriculum-3](http://www.pltw.org/our-programs/pltw-gateway-curriculum#curriculum-3)

**Development Platforms:** MIT App Inventor, Thinkable, Microsoft Makecode for micro:bit  
<http://appinventor.mit.edu/explore/>      <https://thinkable.com/#/>      <https://makecode.microbit.org/>

**Student Requirements:** Attend class daily. Arrive on time and prepared to learn. Be a good listener. Ask questions and participate. Work well individually, with partners, and in groups/teams. Turn assignments in on time.

**GROWTH MINDSET:** *"It's not that I'm so smart. It's just that I stay with problems longer."*

-Albert Einstein

*"The problem is not the problem. The problem is your attitude about the problem."*

-Captain Jack Sparrow

**CLASS RULES**

1. Listen and follow directions.
2. Respect other students, your teacher, and our learning environment.
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION**

Students earn grades based on accumulated points for each semester. This includes in-class work and projects (graded on rubric). I use the standard 10-point grading scale.

**LATE WORK:** Accepted for partial credit. Must be submitted via the "Late Assignment Report" located in Google Classroom.

Last day to turn in late work is 1-week (7-days) prior to the last day of the semester.

**CITIZENSHIP:** Based on behavior and participation:  
**Outstanding, Satisfactory, Needs improvement, Unsatisfactory**

**ABSENCES & MAKE-UPS:** If you are absent, check Google Classroom for assignments.

Students have two days for every day missed to receive full credit on make-up work.

**SUGGESTED MATERIALS**

- Spiral notebook
- Writing tools: pencil(s), eraser, colored pens
- Ear buds

We recognize that many families wish to provide supplies for their own students or donate materials to the school and are welcome to do so at any time. The supplies listed here are suggested materials and are not required of any student or family to fully participate in the school's academic program. All required materials and supplies will be provided to students at no cost.

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**YES, I have read and discussed the course and expectations with my child.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name – Please Print

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name – Please Print

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email