BEGINNING PROGRAMMING	Mr. Tom Hatcher, CPA

Room #1271

E-mail contact information: hatcher@fultonschools.org	

Purpose of Course:
The major goal of this yearlong course is for students to develop the computer science skills of algorithm development, problem solving, and programming. While the emphasis of the course will be on programming, students will also be introduced to other important topics, such as careers, binary numbers, media computation, and robotics. Please be advised that this class is rigorous as it is the course that leads to AP Computer Science.

Prerequisite(s):
None

Materials:
1) Textbook: <u>Exploring Wonderland, Java Programming Using Alice and Media Computation</u>, Pearson Prentice Hall, copyright 2010. Replacement cost is $78.00

Lost/damaged book policy
Students are financially responsible for all books issued by Alpharetta High School. Textbooks may not be left in classrooms, and teachers are not responsible for students' books once books have been issued to the student. The copy issued to the student must be turned in at the end of the course. Students will not receive credit for turning in another student's book, and students may not turn in replacement books. The cost of replacement will be assigned to any student that fails to turn in the exact book she/he was issued and/or to any student that turns in a damaged book. If a student is issued a damaged book (i.e. broken binding, torn pages, water damage, writing, etc…), then the book must be brought to room 1330 for a replacement book or to document the damage. There is a two week grace period for students to document damage before the student will be held accountable.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course students will be able to understand:

1. Careers available in computing
2. The relationship between hardware and software in program execution
3. The application of problem solving strategies to develop and increase logical thinking skills
4. Basic programming techniques to design, implement, and solve simple problems using an object-oriented programming language
5. The ability to process one-dimensional arrays, two –dimensional arrays and lists
6. Boolean logic and conditional programming statements
7. Repetitive statements and loops
8. How programming is used in robotics
9. Programming for media computation

Career Technology Related Careers:

Programmer	Chief Information Officer	Game Designer
Network Engineer	Consultant	Computer System Analyst
System Administrator	Software Engineer	

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Student Organization: The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is the student organization associated with the Business and Computer Science Department. Our chapter is affiliated with the state and national organizations and helps students develop leadership skills.

Evaluation/Assessment:

		Fulton County Grading Scale:	
		Letter Grade	*Numeric Scale*
Daily Work, Labs & Homework	15%	A	90-100
Quizzes	15%	B	80-89
Projects	20%	C	70-79
Tests	35%	F	Below 70
Final Exam	15%		

AHS RECOVERY/RISE (RE-TEACHING/INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT AND ENRICHMENT POLICY)
Students with a course cumulative average of a 74 and below must attend RISE sessions to demonstrate a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements. After attending RISE sessions, attending class regularly, and completing all course work*, a student is eligible to request recovery on major assessments, which he or she may score up to 74%. The recovery grade will replace the previous grade but will not exceed 74%.
*All unit work must be completed in order to exhibit mastery. Any credit given will be awarded in accordance with the stated course late work policy in the teacher's syllabus.
The recovery process must be initiated by the student within five days of the student receiving the graded assignment and the grade being posted to Home Access Center (HAC). Furthermore, all Recovery opportunities expire ten days before the end of each semester.

AHS DEPARTMENT RISE SCHEDULE
Mondays: Language Arts (AM/Lunch/PM)
Tuesdays: Science (AM/Lunch/PM)
Wednesdays: Math (AM/Lunch/PM)
Thursday: Social Studies (AM/Lunch/PM)
Friday: Electives (AM/Lunch/PM)

Home Access Center
As you may already know, Alpharetta High School has a program called Home Access Center that allows you to view your child's academic progress and attendance on-line. You may contact Deborah Brown at 770-721-7640 X128 or email her at BrownDC@fultonschools.org for more information. All parents must come in to the school and show picture identification in order to obtain login information and a password to your account. Due to limited access to a telephone during the day, the best way for us to keep in contact with you is by email.

Class Rules:

1. Students will be considered tardy if not in their assigned seats when the bell rings.
2. Food and drinks are not permitted in the computer lab. Water bottles should stay in your book bags, and should never be near the computers.
3. Stay in your assigned seat all class period.
4. Listen and do not talk during announcements.
5. Handle the computers and textbooks carefully. Removing parts of the computer (such as keys, mouse balls, Dell icons and property tags) is considered vandalism of school property.
6. The computer screens are LCD flat screen panels and not glass, so please do not touch the screens with your fingers.
7. Remain in your seat until the bell rings and make certain your area is clean at the end of class. Lining up at the door is not allowed.

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Make-Up Work Policy
Following an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact his/her teachers to arrange for make-up work. The contact must be made within one school day of returning. If the teacher is absent, contact should be made upon the first day of the teacher's return.

Students are given the same number of days to complete make-up work as the absence, not including the day of return. For instance, if a student is absent two consecutive days, he/she has two days (not including the day of return) to complete the assignments. The teacher will establish a reasonable schedule for completing tests, labs, etc. that cannot be done independently by the student. The policy above applies to excused absences. Students with an excused absence are eligible to make-up work for full credit. While students are allowed to make up work due to unexcused absences, the make-up work for students with unexcused absences may be penalized up to 10% of the maximum value of the graded assignment. Assignments made prior to the absence, including tests/quizzes scheduled for the day of return, are generally due upon the student's return. Students who are present for any portion of the school day are expected to turn in all assignments due on that day in order to receive full credit.

Failure to complete make-up work within the designated time frame may result in a grade reduction or loss of credit for the assignment.

Assignments missed due to pre-approved absences are due upon the student's return unless the teacher has approved other arrangements in advance.

Late Work
Any work that is not turned in by the due date will be considered late and will result in a maximum of 50% credit.

Internet and Network Usage:
Because the Internet is an important part of our curriculum, it will be used frequently and the following rules will apply:

1. Alpharetta High School and Fulton County School System rules apply.
2. Internet use is a privilege and must support academic projects (it must pertain to a class assignment).
3. Logging in as someone else and/or sharing login and password information will be grounds for a discipline referral.
4. Misuse of the server, visits to inappropriate web sites, sending personal e-mails, instant messaging, or other unauthorized use of the Internet will be grounds for a discipline referral.

Honor Code:
In an effort to encourage good study habits, fair competition, and positive development in the area of academics, the Alpharetta faculty supports a strong policy for academic honesty. Student assignments turned in for grading should be the sole work of that individual student. To prevent cheating, including plagiarism, students may not collaborate with other students or adults on their assignments unless the teacher has given explicit permission to do so. This includes the giving or receiving of information in any manner, including electronically. In situations where collaboration is allowed, the teacher will clearly define what level of collaboration is appropriate. Under no circumstances is it acceptable for two students to submit identical work, unless the assignment included a group component that makes it permissible. Students are encouraged to consult with their teacher regarding what level of collaboration is acceptable prior to completing an assignment.

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AHS Plagiarism Statement:
A particular kind of honor code violation occurs with plagiarism. Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's work as your own including the copying of language, structure, programming, computer code, ideas, and/or thoughts of another without proper citation or acknowledgement. Plagiarism also includes using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent, or paid editor. Unless directly stipulated by the teacher, collaboration on written work is not acceptable. Students who willingly provide other students with access to their work are in violation of the Alpharetta High School Honor Code. Upon teacher request, students may be required to submit research papers or other written work to turnitin.com. This website checks the submission for plagiarism, provides a receipt for the student to give to the teacher, and reports to the teacher that the student's work was not copied from any source.

In order to reinforce Alpharetta High School's commitment to academic honesty and the ideals of being a RICH Raider, students may be expected to write or sign an Academic Honesty pledge prior to completing an individual assignment.

The AHS Academic Honesty pledge states: As a RICH Raider, I, __ (student name)___, pledge that I have neither given nor received assistance on this assignment.

 *No electronic device may be displayed during any assessment without the explicit direction from the teacher. Violating this requirement may result in a Major Honor Code violation.

Philosophy of the Alpharetta High School Business & Computer Science Department
We believe all students should have access to quality education that prepares them for a rewarding career. Students should be provided educational experiences to help them become effective problem-solvers with an emphasis on life-long learning in an increasingly interdependent world. We believe that students should be provided with programs of study for viable careers currently in demand using advanced technology to learn the technical expertise needed to become part of a skilled workforce. As educators, we must continue to be diligent in providing opportunities for all students to adapt to technological and social changes in order to meet the expanding needs of industry and business.

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By signing below, the student and parent acknowledge that they have read this syllabus and agree to follow the policies herein.

Beginning Programming
Mr. Hatcher
2013/14

Date _____   Date _____

_____   _____
Parent/Guardian Name **Please Print**   Student Name **Please Print**

_____   _____
Parent/Guardian Signature   Student Signature

_____   _____
Parent Email Address   Student Email Address

* Please print your email address, if you have one, as this is oftentimes the easiest way to contact you regarding your student's progress in class.

My child ☐ *does* ☐ *does not* have regular access to a computer with internet capabilities. (Please check that which applies)

I ☐ *do* ☐ *do not* allow photographs or video taken of my child during classroom activities to be posted in the classroom, or on the school website. (Please check that which applies)

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