



SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

OUR MISSION

To expose students to Computer Science fields through curricular enhancement, mentoring relationships, and educational experiences – providing insight to His calling in their lives

THE PROGRAM

The School of Computer Science (SOCS) at CVCA is a two-year curriculum designed to grow high school students to be successful, impactful Christians in an undergraduate computer science program. The curriculum touches on several major computer science disciplines and allows students to dive deeper into areas of interest through individualized projects, guest lectures, Jterm/Mterm opportunities, and connections with area universities and companies.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Students must apply for acceptance into the School of Computer Science during the first semester of their sophomore year. Due to a limited number of spaces available in the SOCS, it is best to submit your application as soon as possible.

1. Fill out SOCS Application with teacher references.
2. Interview with SOCS Chair.
3. Once accepted to the SOCS, schedule classes with the Guidance Office.

REQUIREMENTS

Students must pass each class to continue in the program.

- **Advanced Game Design – Fall (0.5 credit)**
Students utilize computer science and program knowledge to develop games that demonstrate mastery and engage an authentic audience. This course provides a hook for learning high-level mastery of programming and design for students, preparing them for future opportunities in career and college. This course will conclude with a CTE professional certification exam.
- **Cybersecurity – Spring (0.5 credit)**
Few fields are growing at the rate of Cybersecurity. In this course, students learn active problem solving skills and how to utilize high-level computer science skills to thwart would-be cyber attackers. The course concludes with a CTE professional certification exam.
- **Mobile Apps – Fall (0.5 credit)**
The ability to develop apps is a highly sought after skill. Students in this course adapt their computer science skills to develop, test, and finalize real-world applications that solve real-world problems. This course concludes with a CTE professional certification exam.
- **SOCS Seminar – Fall (0.5 credit)**
Students choose and focus on an area of the vast computer science career field and develop a pathway towards that career. Students also develop a capstone project that represents their learning in the School of Computer Science and demonstrates mastery in skills that prepare them for their chosen path.
- **Experiences (3 credits)**
Students participate in student-choice experiential learning opportunities that are exploratory, college-focused, and career-oriented in order to build relationships, gain hands-on skills and competencies, and prepare students for college and a career. Students need to earn three credits or experiences in order to graduate with distinction.

Schools of Distinction provide an innovative opportunity for CVCA students.

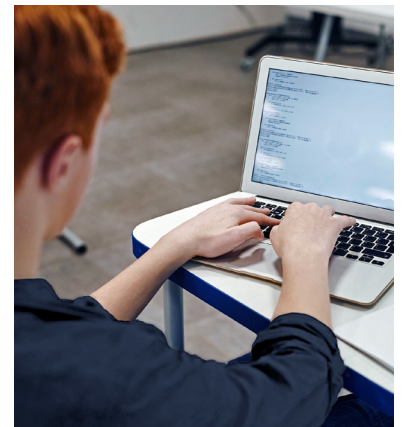
Designed for juniors and seniors, the two-year curriculum exposes students to professional fields and potential majors.

This program is in addition to CVCA's already rigorous college prep curriculum.

The Mission of all Schools of Distinction is "To expose our students to professional fields through...

- Curricular enhancements (extra classes in a specific field)
- Mentoring relationships and community partnerships (mentoring, community projects, field trips, etc.)
- Experiential learning (internships, shadowing, competitions, guest lecturers, projects, etc.)

...providing insight into His calling in their lives."



FEES

The School of computer science is \$300 per year. Once accepted, a student's position is confirmed when the automatic payment is completed through their FACTS method of payment on file. Unconfirmed positions may be offered to other candidates on the list. The fees include mentoring program, internship program, guest speakers, specialized instruction, materials, and one-on-one training.

DISTINCTIONS

Students who complete all School of Computer Science requirements receive:

- **Computer Science Cord at Graduation:** Students receive a gold cord.
 - **Transcript Designation:** Students receive a special distinction on their transcript.
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JTERM/MTERM

Students have the opportunity to shadow in computer science fields of interest during Jterm/Mterm.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Each student has the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of experiences in and out of CVCA that can be customized to their interests and goals. These Experience Schools of Distinction opportunities are available in three categories:

- Exploratory
- College
- Career

Through Experience, students have the opportunity to chart a path of high value, customized experiences that maximize the impact of their participation in their School of Distinction. Experiences include mentoring, shadowing, internships, college visits, problem-solving challenges, attendance industry guest speaker programs, and many more. Each experience earns students credits. Each student is required to complete three credits in order to achieve distinction. They are encouraged and welcome to participate in even more.

INTERNSHIPS and EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Students have the opportunity to participate in internships prior to graduation as part of their Experience credits needed for distinction. In these internships, students engage in meaningful computer science projects that help provide important insight into a computer science career. SOCS students have the opportunity to participate in field trips, conferences, and competitions.

SOCS CONTACT

Jordan Fairfax
4687 Wyoga Lake Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44224
330-929-0575
jfairfax@cvcaroyals.org

