CodeHS
Why AP Java?

Why Learn Java?

Java is a widely used programming language; more than 3 billion devices run Java. From programming Android apps to web apps to Minecraft mods, students taking a Java course are learning a powerful programming language that enables them to take on meaningful, engaging projects. Simply put, Java is everywhere. Also, as many college introductory computer science (CS) programs teach Java as their language of instruction, students who learn Java will find themselves prepared to succeed in college and beyond.

Why AP Java?

College Preparation

- ❖ AP Java provides students with the opportunity to learn a practical and applicable programming language while earning college credit
- ❖ Many college introductory computer science courses teach Java as their first language. Students who learn Java in high school will have a head start and will be poised to succeed in university level CS programs

Career Readiness

- ❖ The U.S. workforce is strongly in need of computer science graduates, with current estimates projecting that 1,000,000 jobs in computer science will go unfilled by 2020
- ❖ Computer science is on average the highest paid college major upon graduation

Enormous Opportunity

- ❖ AP Java was the fastest growing AP exam in 2014, with the number of test takers increasing by 33% from the year before.
- ❖ Certain groups of students are still underrepresented in AP CS
  - ➢ In 2013, males outnumbered female test takers 4:1, compared to roughly 2:1 in other AP STEM subjects
  - ➢ 3% of total test takers were African American
- ❖ AP Computer Science courses represent a mere 15% of total high school CS courses
- ❖ Only 5% of U.S. high schools offer an AP Computer Science course