Teaching Code with Apple

When you teach code, you’re not only teaching the language of technology. You’re teaching new ways to think and bring ideas to life. And coding with Swift, Apple’s powerful, intuitive, and easy-to-learn programming language, provides students fun and engaging ways to prepare for the future. Every student should have the opportunity to create something that can change the world. Whether students are just getting started with Swift Playgrounds on iPad or ready to learn Xcode on Mac, Apple provides everything educators need to bring code into the classroom.
Teaching Code Curriculum Pathway

The Everyone Can Code and Develop in Swift curricula take students all the way from writing their first lines of Swift code to building their first apps. The table below provides an overview of the core, free teaching and learning resources available.

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<th>Student</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>App</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Lesson hours</th>
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<td>Everyone Can Code Puzzles</td>
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<td>Grade 4 and up</td>
<td>Swift Playgrounds</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Students learn foundational coding concepts, such as loops, variables, and functions. They practice and apply their skills in a variety of ways, from puzzles to open-ended playgrounds.</td>
<td>45 hours</td>
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<td>Everyone Can Code Adventures</td>
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<td>Grade 4 and up</td>
<td>Swift Playgrounds</td>
<td>Everyone Can Code Puzzles</td>
<td>Students learn more advanced code concepts, such as event handling, advanced arrays, and component-based design as they scope and build their own projects.</td>
<td>45 hours</td>
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<td><strong>Develop in Swift</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Intro to App Development with Swift</td>
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<td>High school and up</td>
<td>Xcode</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Students get practical experience with the tools, techniques, and concepts needed to build a basic iOS app from scratch.</td>
<td>90 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift</td>
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<td>High school and up</td>
<td>Xcode</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Students complete app development projects designed to prepare them for the AP exam, while also learning about ethics in computing, user-centered design, hardware, and security.</td>
<td>180 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>App Development with Swift</td>
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<td>High school and up</td>
<td>Xcode</td>
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<td>Students build a foundation in Swift, UIKit, and networking through hands-on labs and guided projects. By the end of the course, students can build an app of their own design.</td>
<td>180 hours</td>
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Develop in Swift

Creating apps in Swift gives students a way to think about using code to make an impact in the world. The Develop in Swift curriculum teaches students Swift, a powerful and intuitive open source programming language included with the Xcode programming environment on Mac. It’s the same language professional developers use in the fast-growing app economy to make apps for iOS, macOS, tvOS, watchOS, and beyond. Develop in Swift is great for teaching students who are new to coding as well as for advancing those with previous experience. It even prepares them for a career in programming with industry-recognized certification.
Curriculum Overview

Develop in Swift is intended for high school and higher education students to explore designing and building a fully functioning app of their own. As they develop new skills, students master key coding concepts and can even earn AP credit or industry-recognized certification for knowledge of Swift and Xcode. Students with certification receive a digital badge that they can share on professional networks to convey their preparedness for industry. Teacher guides are available for educators—regardless of experience teaching Swift or other programming languages—that provide tools for deepening engagement with aspiring app developers. For after-school or summer learning programs, there are complementary Swift Coding Club materials. And app showcases give coders a chance to celebrate their ingenuity with the community, whether they’re learning in or out of the classroom.

The Intro to App Development with Swift course introduces students to the world of app development and the basics of Swift and Xcode. The course culminates in a final project where they can choose one of two basic iOS apps to build.

The AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift course gives students practical experience with the tools and techniques they’ll need to build basic iOS apps from scratch while helping prepare them for the AP® Computer Science Principles exam. The coding activities in AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift are based on the same activities as Intro to App Development with Swift.

App Development with Swift follows Intro to App Development and AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift and offers students the chance to go further. Students who are familiar with Swift, Xcode, and iOS development can move through lessons quickly or go straight to the labs, where they’ll build mini-projects and test their code in playgrounds. By the end of the course, they’ll be able to build a fully functioning app of their own design. Once students complete this course, they can earn industry-recognized certification for knowledge of Swift and Xcode.
Key Features

Xcode playgrounds. Students learn programming concepts as they write code in Xcode playgrounds—interactive coding environments that let them experiment with code and see the results immediately.

Step-by-step instructions. Detailed instructions with images and videos guide students through all the steps of building an app in Xcode.

Sample projects. Using the included project files, students can work with parts of code without having to build an entire app from the beginning.

Study tools. Students can check their understanding and reflect on what they’ve learned with review questions, key vocabulary, links to documentation, and more.
Lesson 1: Playground Basics. Students become familiar with the interactive playground environment.

Lesson 2: Naming and Identifiers. Students explore the fundamentals of solving problems by using good names and identifiers.

Lesson 3: Strings. Students are introduced to the concept of strings and string interpolation.

Lesson 4: Hello, world! Students are welcomed to the tradition of programming, learning how to customize their Xcode environment, and debugging.

Lesson 5: First App. Students create their first app using Xcode, displaying their work in an iOS simulator.

Lesson 6: Functions. Students discover what makes functions so powerful as they combine detailed steps into a definition they can use again and again.

Lesson 7: BoogieBot. Students put their knowledge of functions to work by controlling an animated dancing robot within the playground.

Lesson 8: Constants and Variables. Students expand their understanding of naming through an introduction to the concepts of constants and variables.

Lesson 9: Types. Students become more familiar with the foundation of Swift by examining the type system—from types in the standard Swift library to custom types.

Lesson 10: Parameters and Results. Students expand their knowledge of functions by finding out about parameters and return values and how they make functions more flexible and powerful.
Intro to App Development Course Outline (continued)

**Lesson 11: Making Decisions.** Students learn how to make decisions in code using conditional if/else statements, true or false Bool values, and comparison operators.

**Lesson 12: Instances, Methods, and Properties.** Students build on their knowledge of types by exploring the methods and properties that make up an instance of that type.

**Lesson 13: QuestionBot.** Students get experience modifying an existing Xcode project by writing new logic for an app bot that responds to different questions.

**Lesson 14: Arrays and Loops.** Students discover how to create and work with arrays by adding and removing objects. They also learn how loops work with each object in an array.

**Lesson 15: Defining Structures.** Students recognize that it’s often useful to group related information and functionality into a custom type.

**Lesson 16: QuestionBot 2.** Students expand on the QuestionBot app by building ChatBot, an app that displays the history of a conversation. They examine the data source pattern, and build a simple data source object to provide information on Message objects to display in the message list view. Students practice appending to an array to store messages on the data source object to maintain a history of the conversation.

**Lesson 17: Actions and Outlets.** Students find out how to build a user interface (UI) with Interface Builder and connect UI elements with code through outlets and actions. They practice creating outlets to access properties of a UI view and creating actions to respond to user interaction with buttons and other controls.

**Lesson 18: Adaptive User Interfaces.** Students learn a repeatable process to create a UI on the smallest-size iPhone that scales up to all iPhone sizes and orientations. They explore Auto Layout, the system for laying out constraints that set the location and size of UI elements. And they use stack views, a special object designed to automatically set auto layout constraints based on simpler settings and a grid-like system. In the process, they build the SimpleCenter, ElementQuiz, and AnimalSounds apps.

**Lesson 19: Enumerations and Switch.** Students discover enumerations (or enums)—a way to define a named list of options. They learn what they’re used for, how to define them, and common ways to work with them. They also learn to use the switch statement to conditionally run specific code based on any option that an enum defines.

**Lesson 20: Final Project.** Students complete one or both final project options from scratch. The first option is a Rock/Paper/Scissors game; the second is a meme generator. Students review a variety of concepts covered in the course and build the user interface, model data, and controller objects that make up the entire app.

**Lesson 21: App Design.** Students go through a design cycle that focuses on prototyping, much like the process that professional app developers go through.
**AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift Course Outline**

AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift is a yearlong course designed to introduce new and experienced programmers to all aspects of app development while helping prepare them for the AP® Computer Science Principles exam. The College Board has identified Apple as one of a number of AP® CSP endorsed providers for the 2019–2020 school year. The teacher guide from Apple includes a course syllabus, curriculum units, and mapping of units to the AP® Computer Science Principles curricular framework. An updated course will be available for the 2020–2021 school year.

Students explore how apps affect our society, our economy, and our culture. They also build a solid foundation in programming fundamentals using Swift as the language. Throughout the course, students get practical experience with the tools, techniques, and concepts needed to build a basic iOS app. Lessons take them through the process of designing an app that includes brainstorming, planning, prototyping, and evaluating apps of their own. And they learn user interface design principles—essential to programming and making great apps.

### Unit 1: Introduction to Coding (4 weeks)

1.1 Topic in Focus: How Computers Work  
1.2 Explore Task Practice 1  
1.3 Create Task Practice 1  
1.4 Playground Basics  
1.5 Naming and Identifiers  
1.6 Strings  
1.7 Hello, world!  
1.8 First App

### Unit 2: Functions and Abstraction (6 weeks)

2.1 Topic in Focus: How the Internet Works  
2.2 Explore Task Practice 2  
2.3 Create Task Practice 2  
2.4 Functions  
2.5 BoogieBot  
2.6 Constants and Variables  
2.7 Types  
2.8 Parameters and Results

### Unit 3: Algorithms (6 weeks)

3.1 Topic in Focus: Privacy and Cybersecurity  
3.2 Making Decisions  
3.3 Instances, Methods, and Properties  
3.4 QuestionBot  
3.5 Arrays and Loops  
3.6 Defining Structures

### Unit 4: Building Apps (10 weeks)

4.1 Topic in Focus: Cryptography  
4.2 Explore Task (8 classroom hours)  
4.3 ChatBot  
4.4 Actions and Outlets  
4.5 Adaptive User Interfaces  
4.6 Enumerations and Switch  
4.7 Final Project  
4.8 Create Task (12 classroom hours)

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The teacher guide includes additional activities, discussion questions, and activities aligned to the College Board curricular and resource requirements for the AP® Computer Science Principles course.
App Development with Swift Course Outline

This two-semester/180-hour course features 51 lessons, each designed to teach a specific skill related to either Swift or app development. At the end of each of the first five units, students complete guided projects that include a description of user-centered features, a project plan, and instructions for designing and building a fully functioning app. Through these projects, students can create features that interest them, all while performing the type of work they can expect in an app development workplace.

Unit 1: Getting Started with App Development. Students find out about the basics of data, operators, and control flow in Swift, as well as documentation, debugging, Xcode, building and running an app, and Interface Builder. They then apply this knowledge to a guided project called Light, in which they create a simple flashlight app.

Unit 2: Introduction to UIKit. Students explore Swift strings, functions, structures, collections, and loops. They also learn about UIKit—the system views and controls that make up a user interface—and how to display data using Auto Layout and stack views. They put this knowledge to practice in a guided project called Apple Pie, where they build a word-guessing game app.

Unit 3: Navigation and Workflows. Students discover how to build simple workflows and navigation hierarchies using navigation controllers, tab bar controllers, and segues. They also examine two powerful tools in Swift, optionals and enumerations. They put this knowledge into practice with a guided project called Personality Quiz, a personalized survey that reveals a fun response to the user.

Unit 4: Tables and Persistence. Students find out about scroll views, table views, and building complex input screens. They also explore how to save data, share data to other apps, and work with images in a user’s photo library. They use their new skills in a guided project called List, a task-tracking app that allows the user to add, edit, and delete items in a familiar table-based interface. Students can customize the app to keep track of all information types, such as collections, tasks, or playlists.

Unit 5: Working with the Web. Students learn about animations, concurrency, and working with the web. They apply what they’ve learned in the guided project called Restaurant, a customizable menu app that displays the available dishes from a restaurant and allows the user to submit an order. The app uses a web service that lets students set up the menu with their own menu items and photos.

Unit 6: Prototyping and Project Planning. Students learn how to design, prototype, and architect a project of their own design. Given enough time, they should be able to build this project independently.

The teacher guide includes tips for extending or adapting lessons and for supporting students who need additional assistance.
Develop in Swift Support Materials

Assessment
Each teacher guide in Develop in Swift includes project-based assessments that allow educators to observe students’ collaboration, communication, and critical-thinking skills and to assess their coding and documentation through submitted tasks.

Certification
Educators teaching App Development with Swift can help students earn recognition for their knowledge of Swift and Xcode. App Development with Swift Level 1 certification is available through an exam administered by Certiport,* and shows that students are ready to take the next step in becoming app developers. Learn more about certification >

App Design Journal
Even before they can begin to develop apps in Swift, students can think about the types of apps they might want to design and build. The App Design Journal guides students through prototyping their ideas, testing the app with their peers, and refining the user experience.

App Showcase Guide
Celebrate student ingenuity. Encourage students to share their coding achievements with the broader community through community events, such as project demonstration events or app showcases. The App Showcase Guide provides practical support to help you plan and execute a showcase event.

Swift Coding Club
Engage and extend students beyond the classroom with a Swift Coding Club. Fun activities let students collaborate in challenge-based activities, from programming connected devices to designing their own apps. Facilitator guides give any club leader the tools to get students creating with code.

*Additional terms may apply; see the Certiport website for more information.
Teaching Code Additional Information

Download the Swift Playgrounds resources
- Everyone Can Code Puzzles
- Everyone Can Code Puzzles Teacher Guide
- Swift Playgrounds app

Download the App Development with Swift guides
- AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift
- AP® Computer Science Principles with Swift Teacher Guide
- Intro to App Development with Swift
- Intro to App Development with Swift: Teacher Guide
- App Development with Swift
- App Development with Swift: Teacher Guide

Additional resources
- Learn more about Apple’s programs for teaching code.
- Connect with other educators in the Apple Developer Forums.
- Get App Development with Swift Level 1 certification.
- Import App Development with Swift into your Canvas instance.
- Import AP® Computer Science with Swift into your Canvas instance.

About Swift
Swift is the powerful and intuitive programming language created by Apple for building apps. Swift is not only great for getting you started with coding, it’s also super powerful. It’s designed to scale from writing the simplest program, like “Hello, world!” to the world’s most advanced software. Learn more about Swift.

About Xcode
Xcode is the Mac app used to build every other Mac app and every iOS app, too. It has all the tools you need to create an amazing app experience. And it’s available as a free download from the Mac App Store. Learn more about Xcode.

Apple Professional Learning
Apple Professional Learning Specialist offerings are organized into multiple-day engagements over a period of time and are designed to provide:
- Leadership visioning and planning to help administrators prioritize learning objectives.
- Guidance from an Apple Professional Learning Specialist who’s dedicated to your project.
- Customized, research-based professional learning plans to match learning goals.
- Hands-on, immersive learning experiences to help faculty develop innovative instructional practices that engage students.
- An opportunity to work with your professional learning leaders to build sustainability.

Let Apple Professional Learning Specialists help provide your faculty with the best personal support for innovating their instructional practices in ways that will engage students and enable personalized learning.

To learn more, contact your Apple account executive or send an email to apls@apple.com.
Standards Alignment

The Develop in Swift App Development with Swift curriculum is aligned to Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) Interim Computer Science Standards for Level 3A. The alignment covers the algorithms and programming concepts within the Computer Science Interim 2016 CSTA K–12 Standards. The App Development with Swift course will go through the CSTA’s formal crosswalk review ahead of the 2020–21 school year.

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