

Planning Cities of the Future

Class Theme

6th Grade Course Syllabus

Roderick Hames,
BUSINESS & COMPUTER
SCIENCE TEACHER

GRADING POLICY

Keyboarding.....	25%
Handouts.....	5%
Projects.....	70%

Total 100%

GRADING SCALE

A.....	90-100
B.....	80-89
C.....	74-79
D.....	70-73
U.....	- 69

Learning is Fun and Productive with Realistic Hands-on Projects

by... Roderick Hames,

Crews students will see a new look to the computer science program at Crews this year. They will be exposed to a variety of technological experiences with the goal of understanding how to apply technology skills to real world experiences.

Their theme for this year will be city planning and urban problem solving. To begin their nine week adventure, they will start with an overview of **basic technology skills**. They will learn the basics of logging into a network and setting up a password. This also includes basic hardware terms and correct keyboarding technique. They will then be drilled and tested on their **keyboarding skills**. Each day they will be required to practice keyboarding drills for approximately ten minutes.

By the end of the nine week period, students will

be asked to target a **100 percent** improvement in their speed.

Students will be introduced to a series of **Microsoft Word** drills that will train students in the basic skills of word processing and desktop publishing. Their drills will center on the history of Gwinnett and a variety of statistical information about our cities.

Once they finish their training in Word, they will then create a multipage pamphlet in **Microsoft Publisher**. This booklet will be the springboard for teaching **Paint-Shop Pro**, and **Microsoft FrontPage**. If chosen their futuristic city can be published on the school web site. Students will also be expected to run a simulated city using **Maxis Sim-City3000**. They will record

statistical analysis on their city with the aid of **Microsoft Excel**. In addition they will report to me reasons behind many of their deci-



Our class website is:
www.crews.org/curriculum/ex/compsci

sions made about their cities. Students will finish their work with a study of Internet **safety** and e-mail **etiquette**. Finally, if time permits they will create a **Microsoft Access** database on one aspect of their city.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- My office phone number is: 770-982-6957
- My e-mail address is: rod_hames@gwinnett.k12.ga.us
- Our web site is: www.crews.org/curriculum/ex/compsci/
- Early lab - check with me on times and dates..

Classroom Management Takes on a New

Look by Rod Hames

Students at this age are naturally curious, enthusiastic and energetic. A firm discipline policy therefore will be used to ensure classroom success for all students.

Rules that are broken are tempered with fair and appropriate consequences. At Crews students expectations for behavior are as high as they are for their academics. There are 4 basic rules covering behavior:

1. Work quietly without disturbing others.
2. Listen carefully and follow directions.
3. Use time wisely. (not being tardy)
4. Respect for others. (Treat others as you would want to be treated)



Continued...

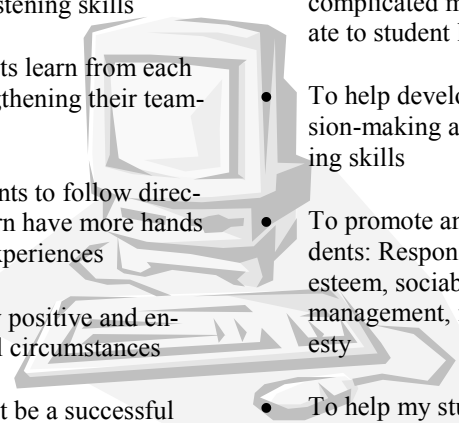
Expectations...

(Continued)

Students who struggle controlling their behavior in class will be dealt with for both their sake and the class. For example, being tardy to class is on occasion unforeseen and unavoidable. However upon the 3rd (unexcused) tardy a detention will be assigned. After that parents will be notified and one more detention will be assigned. For other problems, a citation might be given in class for wrong behavior. With each citation, beginning with a warning, the consequences will escalate. All appropriate measures will be used to help any student who has problems following rules in class.

My Teaching Goals for This Year (2008 – 2009)

- To help improve student communication and listening skills
- To help students learn from each other by strengthening their teamwork abilities.
- To teach students to follow directions and in turn have more hands-on learning experiences
- To always stay positive and enthusiastic in all circumstances
- To help student be a successful and well rounded person here at school
- To explain and clarify difficult or complicated materials appropriate to student levels
- To help develop student's decision-making and problem solving skills
- To promote and develop in students: Responsibility, good self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity, and honesty
- To help my students become lifelong learners while pursuing their dreams



Technology Acceptable Use Policy

Crews Middle School's technology consists of classroom computer stations, school wide network, advanced technology module, telecommunications including Internet access, e-mail, a satellite system, and video production.

For obvious reasons there is the need for emphasis on the proper and ethical use of this equipment. With these issues in mind we have selected the following guidelines for the use of technology at Crews:

1. Students will use technology with respect to the proper care and

function of the equipment. Any student found to be **intentionally damaging** any hardware or software will be cited for school property abuse.

You will be held responsible for information viewed, received and sent via the Internet.

2. Using **words, ideas, images or data** of another person as the student's own is consid-

ered **plagiarism**.

3. You will not be permitted to bring CD's from home to listen or load programs on the school machines. You are also not allowed to download files from the Internet to the school network.

4. Students' actions will be monitored and they will be held **responsible** for **information viewed, received and sent** when using the **Internet**. The use of online services should also be restricted to school related projects. You are not allowed to check your email here at school

5. Respect for the personal data created by others including students, and teachers will be maintained. Students are not permitted to change, delete or **alter** anyone else's files. **You should not try to alter the computer system of any computer in the building.**

Editorial: My Philosophy of Teaching

I believe teaching can be broken down into 4 basic parts: Educating, Encouraging, Modeling, and Managing. Kids need to know you care. They also need strong leadership today. They need good role models, excellent time managers and teach-

ers who are current in their fields. They don't need fancy teaching approaches or apathetic, sarcastic educators. Both teachers and students face difficulties never before imagined but not insurmountable. Teachers must hold students to high expectations while leading

them along a successful path. I strive to teach, protect, encourage, motivate, but most importantly to love and respect every person who walks into my classroom each and every day.

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____