

Teaching CS AP Principles



BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

Role of AP Courses



- Rethinking process: in part an AP course should be an invitation to explore the field and promote going into that subject
- Roles of CS Principles course:
 - Convey specific CS concepts; e.g., recursion, algorithm...
 - Point out larger implications on STEM, such as data-driven science
 - Introduce social ramifications; e.g., digital ethics, cyber warfare...
- Issues of balance and of assessment

Pilots



- Intentionally diverse, with no specific plans of settling on a canon (beyond the 7 big ideas and 6 CT practices)
- No canonical linguistic vehicle
- Issues on how to make the AP test
 - Difficult to test on qualitative concepts
 - Is a language-independent test possible?
- No process on convergence on detailed syllabus at this time
- Possible feedback mini-tests during the course

Additional Material



- How to structure teachers' professional development so AP CS Principles can transition to HS?
 - Role of online instructions?
 - Depth of instructions?
- Can we go beyond STEM HS teachers for teaching CS Principles