

## **Internship for Teaching Computational Thinking in K-12 - Course Justification**

FIU students recruited by the Honor Society for Computer Science, UPE, are interested in volunteering to teach computational thinking to students in nearby schools in K-12. These students commit to attending a specific school that has a schedule compatible with the student's, and the students regularly attend the school once a week, from the first through the last week of the semester.

In order to properly recognize the efforts of these students, who commit a minimum of 3 hours per week for an entire semester, the creation of a 0-credit Internship for Teaching Computational Thinking K-12 was conceived. With such an internship listed on their resume, students can receive credit for volunteering, get recognition from FIU, and increase their chances of getting selected for other career opportunities.

Because students in K-12 are increasingly required to learn computational thinking to be prepared for future careers in various fields, such an internship would increase the number of FIU students wishing to participate in the weekly teaching of K-12 students.

This internship for teaching computational thinking in K-12 would be mutually beneficial to the FIU students and to the K-12 students. It would also help to formalize and institutionalize the outreach activities, thereby providing a high-level overview by an FIU faculty, and another quality control checkpoint as well.