

# SUMMER USF

2025 CAMP CATALOG



[WWW.USF.EDU/YXP](http://WWW.USF.EDU/YXP)



Youth Experiences

@USFYXP





## EVERYONE CAN CODE

USF Everyone Can Code is an exciting camp designed for campers to explore the world of Minecraft, coding and robotics. This camp will introduce students to the basics of block coding, robotics using Root and Sphero robots, Minecraft coding, and body coding, offering an exploratory look at how coding and how it impacts the world around us. We'll teach our robots to paint, navigate a maze, knock down bowling pins, perform a synchronized dance to a Taylor Swift song and more. On Friday, campers will show off their skills in the Final Showcase!

**Grades 4-6**

Location: USF Tampa &  
USF St. Pete campuses

## USF SPY KIDS

At USF Spy Kids, young adventurers become secret agents, learning the basics of cybersecurity through fun activities. Campers will experience hands-on challenges and collaborative tasks designed to unlock their innercyber detectives. Through spy-themed games and scenarios, they'll learn how to crack secret codes and ciphers, navigate social engineering, and protect sensitive personal information - all while developing critical thinking and teamwork skills. They'll work together to try to find the mole in the organization by solving escape-room type problems as trainees for the Cybersecurity Agency for Global Engagement (C.A.G.E.). Do you have what it takes to be an agent of C.A.G.E.?

**Grades 2-5**

Location: USF Tampa campus



## BRICK BY BRICK

Join us for the ultimate STEM adventure at Brick-by-Brick Robotics Camp! This camp introduces young learners to the exciting world of robotics and engineering using the LEGO® Spike Prime system. Campers will build, code, and test their own robots. From assembling basic structures to programming complex movements, students will discover key engineering concepts in a fun and engaging way. Along the way, they'll unlock their creativity and gain confidence as they turn their ideas into innovative designs!

**Grades 3-5**

Location: USF Tampa campus

## TASTE BUDS COOKING CAMP

Campers will learn the essentials of kitchen and food safety, practice measuring and mixing ingredients, and discover the art of working as a team to create delicious dishes. Students will gain confidence in the kitchen while exploring new recipes, developing practical life skills, and, most importantly, having fun! Throughout the week, campers will taste everything they make, savoring their culinary creations, and will compile their favorite recipes into a personalized recipe book to show off at home and use for future cooking adventures.

Grades 3-5

Location: USF Tampa campus



## USF REC EXPLORERS

Embark on an exciting week full of fun, friendship, and discovery! Designed to keep young campers active and engaged, each day is packed with hands-on activities and playful exploration. From splashing in the pool during aquatic adventures to conquering creative team challenges on our low ropes course, every moment is a chance to grow and shine. Campers will enjoy crafts that spark their imaginations, outdoor games that inspire teamwork, and nature walks that connect them to the environment. With caring counselors and a safe, supportive environment, this camp is the perfect place for your explorer to make lifelong memories.

Grades 2-5

Location: USF Tampa campus



### DID YOU KNOW??

In the 2024 summer camp season, USF Youth Experiences welcomed over 1,000 students to participate in more than 40 engaging and educational summer camp sessions! From engineering to criminology, we connected young minds with university resources to inspire the next generation of Bulls!



## ESPORTS CAMP

At USF Esports Camp, students will dive into popular games like Rocket League, Fortnite, Fall Guys, and more, learning key strategies and techniques that top esports players use to succeed. Beyond gaming skills, participants will explore the broader world of esports, including video game commentary, where they'll practice crafting engaging play-by-play and color commentary, and game design, gaining insights into what it takes to create the games they love. With hands-on gaming sessions and team challenges students will sharpen their skills, collaborate with fellow players, and gain a well-rounded perspective on the fast-growing world of professional esports. Get ready for a fun, competitive, and educational camp experience where every gamer has a chance to shine!

Grades 6-8

Location: USF Tampa campus



## ARCHAEOLOGY + ART

This unique camp for middle school students brings history and creativity together as campers learn real excavation techniques, work with 3D scanning to recreate artifacts, and capture their findings in personalized comic books. Led by expert instructors, campers will "dig" into archaeology basics, uncover ancient secrets, and experience the excitement of making real-life connections with past cultures. Through interactive art projects, such as weaving and pottery, they'll explore cultural traditions while developing creative problem-solving.

Grades 6-8

Location: USF Tampa campus







## SHARK TANK CAMP

Bring your big ideas and passion for creativity and jump into the world of entrepreneurship at the USF Shark Tank Camp! Campers will learn the basics of business development, marketing, and product design while working in teams to develop their own unique concepts. Students will brainstorm and pitch their ideas to a panel of "Sharks". Along the way, they'll participate in fun workshops on financial literacy, public speaking, and creative problem-solving, helping them build confidence and essential skills for future success.

**Grades 6-8**

Location: USF Tampa campus

## PHOTOGRAPHY CAMP

Discover the art of storytelling through a camera lens at USF Photography Camp! This hands-on camp introduces essential skills like framing, composition, lighting, and editing, all while exploring the fundamentals of photography in a fun and creative setting. Campers will learn to capture unique perspectives using cell phones, Instax cameras, or their own digital cameras. Tour the USF Contemporary Art Museum and the Graphic Art Studio too! Students will leave at the end of the week with a portfolio of unique pictures in a creative photo book.



**Grades 6-8**

Location: USF Tampa campus



## USF REC ADVENTURERES

Step into a week of exploration, teamwork, and skill-building! Campers will try their hand at exciting activities like paddleboarding on the Hillsborough River, mastering the challenge course, and participating in sports and fitness workshops. They'll also develop valuable skills during leadership activities and team-building games that encourage confidence and collaboration. Whether learning outdoor survival basics, competing in friendly tournaments, or tackling an arts and crafts project, every camper will leave with new friends, unforgettable experiences, and a sense of accomplishment.

**Grades 6-8**

Location: USF Tampa campus

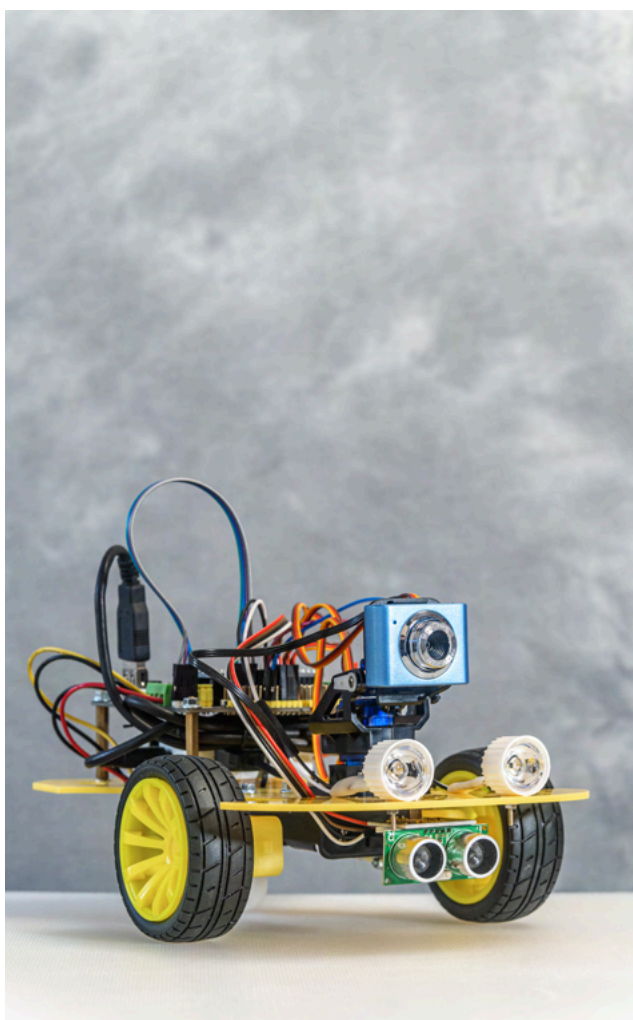


## ROBOTICS CAMP

Explore the exciting world of robotics at USF's Middle School Robotics Camp! Students will design electrical circuits, program sensors using the Arduino IDE, and build their own Arduino-powered robot and enable it to sense its surroundings and tackle fun challenges. Using C and C++ programming languages, students will write code to navigate their robots through obstacles and projects. They'll also explore advanced robotics design with RobotStudio 2024 software. At the end of the camp, campers will take home their Arduino robot, kit, completed projects, and programming files to continue their robotics journey.

**Grades 6-8**

Location: USF Tampa campus



## MIDDLE SCHOOL CYBER

This hands-on camp combines interactive games, engaging lessons, and team-based challenges. The curriculum, licensed by the AFA CyberPatriot program, introduces campers to essential topics such as cryptography, web exploration, digital forensics, and social engineering, while reinforcing basic internet safety and ethical practices. Throughout the week, campers hone their skills and knowledge through dynamic exercises that prepare them to participate in the highlight of the camp: a nationwide cybersecurity competition held on Friday.

**Grades 6-8**

Location: USF Tampa campus



### DID YOU KNOW??

Extracurricular involvement (like summer camps!) contributes to the development of essential life skills, including teamwork, responsibility, and community engagement. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that these activities offer opportunities for students to learn values like teamwork and individual responsibility.





## Explore College Life with Rocky's Residents!

*A Summer Camp Add-On for High School Students*

**Stay**



**Live in a USF dorm**

**Dine**



**Enjoy all meals on campus**

**Play**



**Evening activities like game nights, canoeing, scavenger hunts & more**

**Learn**



**Workshops with Admissions & Financial Aid**

**Lead**



**Leadership & team-building exercises**



**June 23–27, 2025**  
**July 14–18, 2025**

*Limited spots available - add Rocky's Residents to your camp today!*

### Eligible Camps

Creative Writing  
Art of Filmmaking  
Mock Trial: Cyber Crime & Law  
Biomedical Engineering  
Robotics Camp  
Zombie Disaster Camp  
Justice Quest  
Youth Venture  
Bulls Finance Camp  
USF Rec Trailblazers  
Esports Camp







## CREATIVE WRITING



Collaborate with published authors, USF creative writing faculty, and MFA graduate students as you discover the art of storytelling! You'll explore various forms of creative writing—such as fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction—while tackling contemporary topics and learning to bring your ideas to life. Engage in hands-on activities and discussions designed to spark creativity and refine your writing skills. This camp is all about helping you discover your unique voice, build confidence, and craft stories that leave a lasting impact.

**Grades 8–12** Location: USF Tampa campus

## ART OF FILMMAKING



This immersive film camp is for students who are passionate about storytelling and creativity. Campers will participate in hands-on activities like scriptwriting, cinematography, lighting, and editing. Collaborating with peers, they bring their ideas to life, turning their visions into impactful short films. Campers unleash their creativity in a supportive environment, exploring the technical and artistic sides of filmmaking. The week wraps up with a special screening event, where they proudly debut their films to family and friends.



**Grades 10–12** Location: USF Tampa campus



## MUSIC TECH LAB

Explore the exciting world of music and technology! In this hands-on program, students are exposed to music creation, recording, and production. Campers will learn the basics of guitar and keyboard, explore digital music creation through GarageBand on iPads, and experiment with beat-making on DJ decks. They'll be introduced to digital audio workstations while working on original compositions either as solo artists or in collaborative groups. Then they will show off their skills in the Friday performance for family and friends!

**Grades 7–12** Location: USF Tampa campus



## MOCK TRIAL: CYBER CRIME AND LAW



The USF Mock Trial: Cybercrime and Law Summer Camp is an immersive program held at USF's Tampa campus, crafted for high school students interested in the legal process and cyber law. Through hands-on activities, participants explore the trial process, tackling a simulated cybercrime case where they learn to analyze evidence, build arguments, and present cases in a courtroom setting.

With guidance from legal experts and USF faculty, students gain insight into criminal justice, courtroom etiquette, and trial procedures, building essential skills in critical thinking, public speaking, and teamwork.

**Grades 10–12**

**Location:** USF Tampa & St. Pete campuses



## JUDY GENSHAFT HONORS COLLEGE: MOCK TRIAL INTENSIVE

With support from collegiate mock trial competitors, students will explore courtroom fundamentals, including opening statements, cross-examinations, and closing arguments. Led by Maria Gerber—a USF alumna and experienced attorney with nearly 30 years of practice in Florida—this program provides students with essential skills in legal advocacy, critical thinking, and public speaking. The camp culminates in a Saturday mock trial held at Stetson Law School, giving participants real-world experience in a professional setting and a valuable introduction to the legal field.

**Grades 10–12**

**Location:** USF Sarasota Manatee campus



### DID YOU KNOW??

Participation in extracurricular activities has been associated with positive long-term outcomes. A study from Southern Utah University found significant relationships between high school extracurricular participation and future earnings, as well as increased civic engagement!



## ZOMBIE DISASTER CAMP



Step into the ultimate survival training experience at USF Zombie Disaster Camp, where emergency preparedness meets a thrilling zombie apocalypse twist! This action-packed camp is led by real-world disaster response experts from Hillsborough County & USF Emergency Management, the USF Police Department, U.S. Coast Guard and more. Campers will earn CPR and Stop-the-Bleed certifications, master fire suppression techniques, and tackle mock disaster challenges. They'll also strategize to survive a simulated zombie outbreak—building shelters, managing resources, and planning evacuations—all while learning critical skills like first aid and crafting emergency plans. Whether outsmarting the undead or preparing for real-life disasters, campers will emerge as crisis-ready heroes. Join USF Zombie Disaster Camp and see if you can finish without losing your “BRAINS!”

Grades 9–12

Location: USF Tampa campus



## JUSTICE QUEST



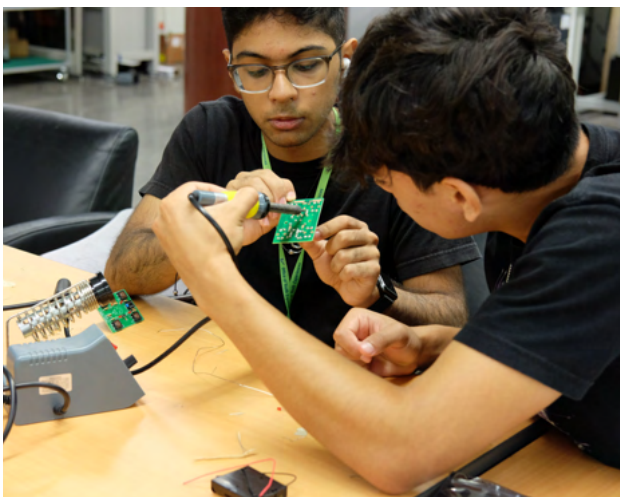
Explore your passion for criminology through a unique, choose-your-own-adventure experience! Campers investigate a real-world case by gathering evidence, analyzing clues, and solving a crime while engaging in hands-on activities. Led by USF faculty and criminal justice professionals, the program explores topics like fingerprinting, evidence processing, criminal profiling, interrogation, and the legal system. Combining learning with practical applications, USF Justice Quest offers an exciting introduction to the diverse careers and degree paths within the criminal justice field.

Grades 9–12

Location: USF Tampa campus







## BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING



Explore the exciting field of biomedical engineering with USF's expert faculty in this hands-on camp! Work in the state-of-the-art Design for X (DFX) lab as you plan, build, and test bioelectrical interfaces. You'll design components using 3D printing, solder electrical connections, and even create your own lie detector to explore bioelectrical signals. Engage with industry professionals through workshops and gain insights into tools and technologies used by medical experts like cardiologists and neurosurgeons.

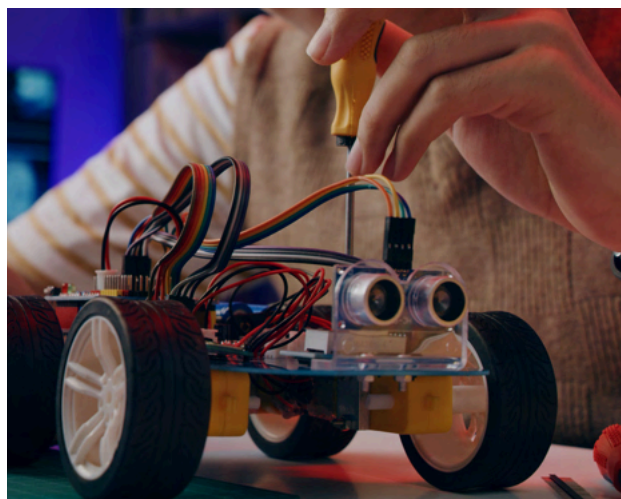
**Grades 9-12**

Location: USF Tampa campus

## ROBOTICS CAMP

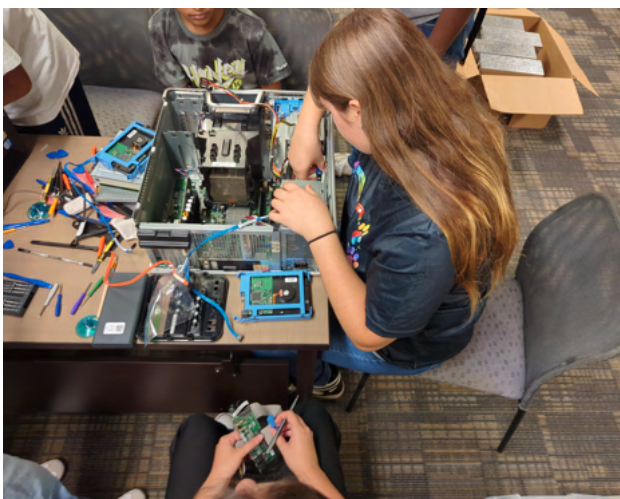


Students will design electrical circuits, program sensors using the Arduino IDE, and build their own Arduino-powered robot. They'll integrate distance and infrared reflectance sensors to enable their robots to sense their surroundings and tackle advanced challenges. Using C and C++ programming, students will write code for navigation. Campers will also work with USF's state-of-the-art IRB industrial robot arms, gaining hands-on experience with automation and robotics in real-world applications. Additionally, students will explore advanced robotics design using RobotStudio 2024 software. At the end of the camp, they'll take home their robot, equipped with skills to excel in the future of robotics and automation.



**Grades 9-12**

Location: USF Tampa campus



## HIGH SCHOOL CYBER CON

The USF High School CyberCon is a dynamic summer camp delivered in a conference-style format, bringing together USF experts, industry leaders, and student organizations to provide an exceptional week of cybersecurity education. Campers engage in hands-on exercises and workshops on topics like ransomware negotiations, computer science engineering, and cybersecurity careers. A highlight of the five-day camp is the exciting capture-the-flag competition, where participants tackle real-world challenges, inspiring the next generation of ethical hackers and cybersecurity professionals.

**Grades 9-12**

Location: USF Tampa campus



## ESPORTS CAMP



Elevate your gaming skills at USF Esports High School Camp, where participants explore advanced strategies and techniques used by top esports professionals in games like Rocket League, Fortnite, Valorant, and more. Designed for serious gamers, this camp features hands-on sessions, team-based competitions, and expert-led workshops to refine gameplay, enhance teamwork, and master the mechanics of competitive esports. Participants will also gain insight into the business and career opportunities in the fast-growing esports industry. Compete against collegiate esports athletes in the brand new, state-of-the-art USF Esports Living Lab! Join us for an exciting, challenging experience that takes your gaming to the next level!

Grades 9-12

Location: USF  
Tampa campus



## SAT SUMMER INSTITUTE

An exceptional SAT score can significantly enhance a student's chances of gaining admission to top universities. The USF SAT Summer Institute offers a comprehensive review course designed to help students achieve their best possible scores. This program covers essential topics, including math and verbal skills, effective study tips, and practice with typical exam questions. Students will learn proven test-taking strategies, such as tackling different problem types, utilizing the process of elimination, and managing their time. With sample tests to measure progress, participants will sharpen their skills and gain the confidence needed to excel on the SAT and stand out among their peers.

Grades 9-12

Location: USF Tampa, St.  
Pete, & Sarasota Manatee  
campuses





## BULLS FINANCE CAMP



Bulls Finance Camp, hosted by the USF Muma College of Business, is an exclusive program for high school students held on the USF Tampa campus. This camp offers a comprehensive introduction to the world of finance, providing students with hands-on learning experiences and practical insights into the field. Campers will explore key financial concepts, with a strong emphasis on financial literacy, gaining skills that empower them to make informed decisions. Whether you're interested in personal finance or pursuing a career in business, Bulls Finance Camp is the perfect opportunity to start that journey.

**Grades 9-12**

Location: USF Tampa campus



## YOUTH VENTURE



Embark on an enriching journey at USF Youth Venture, a unique summer camp experience created in collaboration with the USF Nault Center for Entrepreneurship. This program invites motivated campers to explore the exciting world of entrepreneurship and innovation, where they'll learn the skills and mindset needed to bring their business concepts to life. With a focus on real-world applications, USF Youth Venture provides campers with the tools and confidence to design, pitch, and refine their business ideas, preparing them to become the next generation of innovators.

**Grades 9-12**

Location: USF Tampa campus



### DID YOU KNOW??

USF boasts one of the nation's best accounting schools, a top-ranked entrepreneurship center, and a nationally ranked MBA program. The USF Muma College of Business and Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy are separately accredited by AACSB International, placing USF as one of just 194 institutions worldwide certified for quality in both overall business and accounting programs.



## WYNDHAM HOSPITALITY EXPERIENCE

The USF Wyndham Hospitality Experience at the Wyndham Grand Hotel on Clearwater Beach, offers high school students an immersive introduction to hospitality, tourism, and culinary arts. Through hands-on activities, expert-led workshops, and real-world experiences, campers explore hotel management, event planning, customer service, and culinary innovation. Set in a premier beach destination, this program provides students with practical skills, industry insights, and inspiration for pursuing exciting careers in the hospitality field.

**Grades 9-12**

**Location:** Wyndham Grand,  
Clearwater Beach



## USF REC TRAILBLAZERS



Each day is an opportunity to dive into activities that blend recreation, wellness, and leadership. Campers will tackle the high ropes course, hone their skills in sports clinics, and explore fitness classes like yoga and strength training. They'll also engage in thought-provoking leadership workshops, where they'll learn to take initiative and build resilience. Water activities, such as kayaking and paddleboarding, add adventure, while reflective sessions help teens set goals for personal growth. This camp is perfect for high schoolers who want to stay active, develop new skills, and create lasting memories in a supportive and engaging environment.

**Grades 9-12**

**Location:** USF Tampa campus





# WHY CHOOSE USF YXP?

## Quality Programming from a Leading University

With guidance from USF's expert faculty and staff, each camp incorporates hands-on learning and real-world applications that expose campers to various fields like science, technology, criminology, arts, and more, encouraging curiosity and academic growth.

## Dedicated and Knowledgeable Staff

Counselors and program leaders are passionate about working with children, and many are experienced educators and youth mentors.

## Access to State-of-the-Art Facilities

Campers benefit from access to the same top-tier facilities that USF students use, including science labs, recreation centers, and creative spaces.

## Community & Connection Building

Camps are designed to foster social connections and teamwork, allowing kids to make friends with diverse backgrounds and shared interests.

## Variety of Themes and Focus Areas

We offer a broad range of camps, from STEM to arts and humanities. Our camps also encourage exploration, helping students discover new passions they may not have encountered otherwise.

## Focus on Safety & Well-Being

Safety is a top priority, with protocols in place for all activities, highly-trained staff, and a 1:10 counselor-to-child ratio to ensure individualized attention.

## Experience University Life

Students get a taste of what it's like to be on a university campus, helping inspire future educational aspirations and a sense of belonging in higher education.