



Class: 7th Grade Pre-Engineering by PLTW
Teacher: Matt Dudley
Email: dudley.matthew@westada.org
Phone: 208-855-4225 ext. 1166
Website: www.westada.org/Domain/2368

SYLLABUS #1

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for taking the time to read through this class syllabus. I am excited for the experiences that this class will provide all participants. During this time, students will have the opportunity to creatively use the skills learned in other classes. For this time to be most meaningful, it is imperative that all students follow expectations as outlined on the second page. If questions or concerns should arise, please refer to the contact information above.

COURSE RATIONALE

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education curricular programs used in schools. As a charitable organization, PLTW exists to prepare students for the global economy through its world-class curriculum, high-quality comprehensive development, and an engaged network of educators, students, universities, and professionals. PLTW's comprehensive curriculum has been designed by PLTW teachers, university educators, engineering and biomedical professionals, and school administrators to promote critical thinking, creativity, innovation, and real-world problem solving skills in students. The hands-on, project-based program engages students on multiple levels, exposes them to areas of study that they typically do not pursue, and provides them with a foundation and proven path to college and career success.

MAJOR TOPICS & PROJECTS

- What is Engineering?—Introductions & Vocabulary
- Design Process—Foot Orthosis
- Measurement—Skimmer Challenge
- Sketching and Dimensioning Techniques—Puzzle Cube Challenge

Note: See the class calendar on the website for a detailed agenda.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

All required materials needed for this course will be provided by the teacher.

COMMUNICATION

For this class, academic and behavioral feedback is provided for all students on a weekly basis. This information is located in Powerschool and is my most valuable communication tool. For it to be effective, I highly encourage that all parents and students check Powerschool at least once a week. Beyond this, if concerns or questions should arise, please contact me in a timely manner.

PRIDE

It is a school-wide policy that students follow the PRIDE guidelines. This says that all students will demonstrate **P**erseverance, **R**esponsibility, **I**ntegrity, **D**etermination, and **E**xcellence. In class, I do my best to encourage and ensure students are following these expectations. However, outside of class, I ask that parents or guardians please join with me to uphold these same character traits.

EXPECTATIONS

While this class is an elective, it is rigorous and requires focus, dedication, and hard work. It is expected that all students will give 100% during class. There are a multitude of ways for students to continue practicing, researching, and exploring the world of engineering at home, but homework is minimal.

The concepts that we will be discussing, learning, and applying are not simple and require a serious investment of mental energy and focus. In order for us to have fun building something, we must first understand the concepts behind its creation. This means that students will be recording evidence, keeping an organized engineering notebook, and will held accountable for all parts of the Design Process.

In addition to the seriousness of the curriculum, it is important that students understand that the tools, materials, and computer software we will be working with are *expensive*; horseplay, misuse of tools/machinery, computers and/or theft will not be tolerated. Furthermore, it is my goal to maintain a focused, safe, and clean learning environment. Therefore, backpacks, food, drinks, phones, and earbuds/headphones will not be allowed in this classroom and will be confiscated if present. Confiscated items will need to be picked up by the student at the end of the school day.

Lastly, due to the specialized tools and materials of this class, students cannot simply complete unfinished work at home. Instead, they will need to come in during advisory, lunch, or after school to get caught up. Students are responsible for setting up these times in advance. If a student sets up a time to stay after school, they are also responsible for notifying their parent/guardian.

GRADES

Grades will be updated in Power School at least once a week. Classwork can be redone for the average of the two grades. Included are the following categories:

Classwork	Handouts, drawings, built project	90%
Assessments	Quizzes and final exam	10%

Additionally, a "Citizenship Grade" will be included. The citizenship grade does NOT count toward the final grade. It is simply included to communicate the efforts and behaviors of the student.

4=Great week—no issues!

3=One or two minor issues throughout the week.

2=Student needed redirection an average of once a day—hopeful for improvement.

1=Average of 2 or more issues per day. Student will lose privileges if next week is also a "1" or "0." Parent, please contact me for more information

0=One major issue this week and/or absolute unwillingness to work despite frequent redirection. Student has lost privileges. Parent has been contacted.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is important that students are in class and on time. If a student is absent, **they** are responsible for seeking and completing any missing assignments, assessments, or project work during their own time (advisory, lunch, or after school).

As for tardies, please see the policy below.

Tardy 1— Student notified and recorded in Powerschool for parent viewing

Tardy 2— Student notified and recorded in Powerschool for parent viewing

Tardy 3—Notify student and parent, plus one lunch detention.

Tardy 4 and beyond—Notify student and parent, plus three lunch detentions.

A student will be considered tardy if they are not "ready to work" and in their seat when the bell rings. Also, students that choose to be disruptive before the tardy bell will be asked to step outside and will be marked tardy.