

**Course Description:**

STEM Practicum is a capstone course intended to provide students with the opportunity to apply the skills and knowledge learned in previous STEM Education courses within a professional, working environment. In addition to developing an understanding of the professional and ethical issues encountered by STEM professionals in the workplace, students learn to refine their skills in problem solving, research, communication, data analysis, teamwork, and project management. Instruction may be delivered through school laboratory training or through work-based learning arrangements such as internships, cooperative education, service learning, mentoring, and job shadowing. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be prepared for postsecondary study in a STEM field.

Work-Based Learning Framework Practicum activities may take the form of work-based learning (WBL) opportunities (such as internships, cooperative education, service learning, and job shadowing) or industry-driven project-based learning.

**Topics covered in STEM IV will include the following:**

- Personalized Learning Plan
- Safety
- STEM Employment Research and Preparation
- Ethics
- Transferring Course Concepts to Practicum
- Portfolio
- Communication of Project Results

Source: <https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/career-clusters/cte-cluster-stem.html>

**Required Materials:**

- Dedicated STEM IV notebook (3-Ring binder, spiral or composition), folder, college ruled paper, pencils, highlighter.
- **Student device:** We will be using a web-based program called **iCEV**. It is imperative that you have your MSCS device and charger with you daily.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

No cell phone use in class unless granted permission by the teacher. MSCS has issued student devices and it is the expectation that you will use your device. On occasion, it may be necessary to use a cell phone, but you must seek permission first unless otherwise instructed by the teacher.

**Grading Procedure:**

Grading will be in **weighted categories**. The weights are as follows:

- 5% Class Participation (min 4 per quarter)
- 10% Project/Portfolios/Presentations (min 1 per quarter)
- 10% Homework (min 4 per quarter)
- 35% Classwork (min 4 per quarter)
- 40% Assessments-Tests, Quizzes, etc. (min 4 per quarter)

**Grading Scale**

- A= 90-100
- B= 80-89
- C= 70-79
- D= 60-69
- F= Below 60

**Make-Up and Late Work Policy:**

- Students should make a good faith effort to submit assignments on time. Much of our work will be project-based, and some of those projects will span multiple weeks. For these projects to progress smoothly, students should engage thoughtfully at each stage in the process.
- Assignments submitted late will be deducted 10 points per day that they are late. The highest grade an assignment submitted one day late can receive is a 90, two days late is an 80, three days late is a 70, and so on.
- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the assignment and notes.
- Per district policy, a student has the same number of days to submit missing work as the number of days that they were absent from school.
- **If you miss the day of a quiz or test:** Contact me directly, and we will arrange your make up assessment.

**Expectations:**

Academic achievement is expected at East High School. My desire is for you to be successful. If your grades begin to drop, I will be in contact with your counselor and parents. If you are struggling, please reach out to me ASAP.

**Academic Integrity:**

I encourage you to work with your classmates on homework/classwork or to have study groups for tests; however, letting someone else do all the work while you sit back and copy them will not help you on assessments. Copying the work of others is not going to help you understand the material or pass the course. Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students who are found to be academically dishonest will receive a 0 on the assignment in question.

**CSTO:**

Involvement in student organizations is important because it provides opportunities for students to put classroom learning into real life experiences and can create a meaningful learning experience for students, one that lasts beyond high school. They are also a great resource to showcase your learning through regional, state, and national competitions and conferences. Leadership Conferences engages students with peers from other schools and regions. Participating in contests allows students the opportunity to highlight skills they have learned.

STEM students should become members of TSA. More information to come on this organization and the application process to become a member.

**Tutoring:**

Tutoring will be available Tuesday and Wednesday after school 3:30-4:00. If you plan to attend, it would be helpful to know ahead of time. If either Tuesday or Wednesday is not feasible, arrangements for another time can be made

**Preferred Contact/Communication Method:**

Email is my preferred method of communication. My email address is [wallacej2@scsk12.org](mailto:wallacej2@scsk12.org). I also have a Google Voice number you may use to contact me. It is 901-501-7118. I am not usually on my cell phone during the day, so email would be the preferred method.

Parents—I am available if you have questions or concerns, so feel free to reach out. But for situations where it's appropriate, please encourage students to communicate

with me first. Often it is more straightforward for me to address a student's concern directly. I also want students to learn how to manage their workload and responsibilities independently.

Students—when contacting me via email, please include all relevant information and use a respectful tone. A good rule of thumb here (and in all situations) is to assume positive intent. Example email:

Subject: Grade on Career Exploration assignment

Mrs. Wallace,

I noticed you gave me a 50 on the Career Exploration assignment we turned in Wednesday. I think this may be a mistake, would you please double-check?

Thank you,

Elvis Presley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Period

**\*If necessary, adjustments to the syllabus will be made as needed.\***

**Parents, please complete the information below, sign, and have your student return by Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 or you may use the QR code to sign electronically.**



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Sign:**

I have reviewed the course syllabus. I understand the requirements and expectations of the course.

**Parent/Guardian signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student signature:** \_\_\_\_\_