



Welcome 8th Grade

Parents

English: Academic English 9

- One year course, fulfilling 9th grade English requirement
- Reading: short story, novel, poetry, non-fiction, drama and supplemental texts
- Writing: timed writings and formal papers, using primary source quotations
- Vocabulary: contextual vocabulary and additional 240 word program
- Grammar: required units throughout the year

English: Honors English 9

- One year course, fulfilling 9th grade English requirement
- Reading: 2 more core texts and rigorous supplemental reading program with 9 additional texts
- Writing: emphasis on textual analysis of primary source evidence
- Vocabulary: in-depth application of contextual vocabulary
- Grammar: review and application of skills
- Research: emphasis on documentation skills

English Elective: Speech

- One semester workshop class
- Focuses on developing and practicing speaking skills
- Types of speaking include informative, narrative, and persuasive within impromptu, extemporaneous, and formal formats

English Elective: Creative Writing

- One semester workshop class
- Focuses on developing creative writing voice
- Types of writing include poetry, short story, children's literature, flash fiction, and one-act play

English Elective: Intro to Video

- One semester introduction to video communications, designed for students with little or no experience with video production
 - Examine techniques used in pre-productions, production, and post-production
 - Lab-based course – students will need to work well within a small group

Social Studies: Academic & MYP

American Civics and World Geography

American Civics

- Study of citizenship through an examination of our system of government (e.g. U.S. Constitution, Branches of Fed. Government, State, & Local Gov't)

World Geography

- Examination of the world's geographic regions and an application of learning to the current state of affairs in the world

Social Studies: Honors & MYP

Honors American Civics and World Geography

**How does this level differ from the
Academic level?**

- Increased homework load
- Must have advanced reading comprehension and writing skills
- Must be highly organized and intrinsically motivated

How does this level differ from the Academic level? (cont'd)

Community Service

- Must complete 5 non-school hours of approved community service
- Will be formally evaluated through a class presentation

Social Studies Electives

Available to 9th Graders

Psychology

- One-semester course
- Major psychological fields of study
- **Sample Units:** *The Brain, Memory & Learning, Development, Personality, Abnormal Psych & Disorders, Sensation & Perception, Social Psychology*

Sociology

- One-semester course
- Scientific interpretation of society and its elements.
- **Sample Units:** *Conformity, Individual in Society, Deviance & Crime, Family Units, Social Institutions, Gender, Age, Race*

Social Studies Electives

Available to 9th Graders

21st c. Global Affairs

- One-semester course
- A look at international topics that impact the U.S. and the world (examples include terrorism and nuclear weapons)
- Current issues involve Ukraine, Iran, Syria, and North Korea. We will examine issues as they arise.

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

- One-semester course
- An examination of the history, culture, arts, and politics of key Asian and Middle Eastern countries.
- Strong focus on rising powers such as China and India

Algebra vs. Geometry

- Students have increased responsibility for learning in high school.
- Procedural vs. Conceptual concepts.
- Diligence in homework is critical for success.
- Assessments are more challenging because of more conceptual nature of the material.

Geometry Curriculum

- Students study shapes, their properties, and their real life applications.
- Development of the ability to construct valid logical arguments, especially geometric proofs, is emphasized.
- Algebraic skills and concepts are necessary for success.

Honors Geometry vs. Geometry

- Breadth of curriculum
- Depth of curriculum
- Amount of study time required for success
- Algebra requirements (Linear vs. quadratic)
- Recommendations

CT Algebra part A and part B

- Utilizes computer-based program from Carnegie Learning.
- Emphasizes real life applications.
- Part A is for students who have never had an algebra course.
- Part B is for students who have taken Part A in 8th grade.
- Algebra affects more courses in high school than any other course.

Honors Biology

- One-year course, fulfills one year of three year science graduation requirement
- Prepares students for Keystone Biology Exam (graduation requirement)
- Topics covered with most depth and rigor
- In-depth application and analysis of biology principles are emphasized
- Independent learning required throughout including technical reading before topic is introduced and preparation for unit formative assessments

Academic Biology

- One year course; fulfills one year of three year science graduation requirement
- Prepares students for Keystone Biology Exam (graduation requirement)
- Topics covered with moderate depth and rigor
- Comprehension and application of biology principles are emphasized
- Less independent technical reading
- Moderate independence required for completion of formative and summative assessments

Conceptual Biology

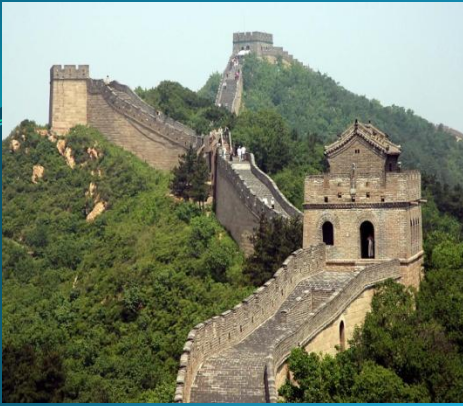
- One year course; fulfills one year of three year science graduation requirement
- Prepares students for Keystone Biology Exam (graduation requirement)
- Knowledge and application of biological principles are emphasized
- Frequent formative assessment to check for understanding; smaller summative assessments

MYP Honors Biology and MYP Academic Biology

- Same content as Honors and Academic Biology
- MYP instruction will emphasize IB principles, such as global contexts, Approaches to Learning, international mindedness, the Learner Profile, and development of skills for lifelong learning.

Keystone Biology Exam

- All three levels of Biology courses prepare students for the Biology Keystone Exam
- The Biology Keystone Exam is a graduation requirement for the Class of 2017 and beyond
- The Biology Keystone Exam is given in May



WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT COURSE OPTIONS 8th to 9th



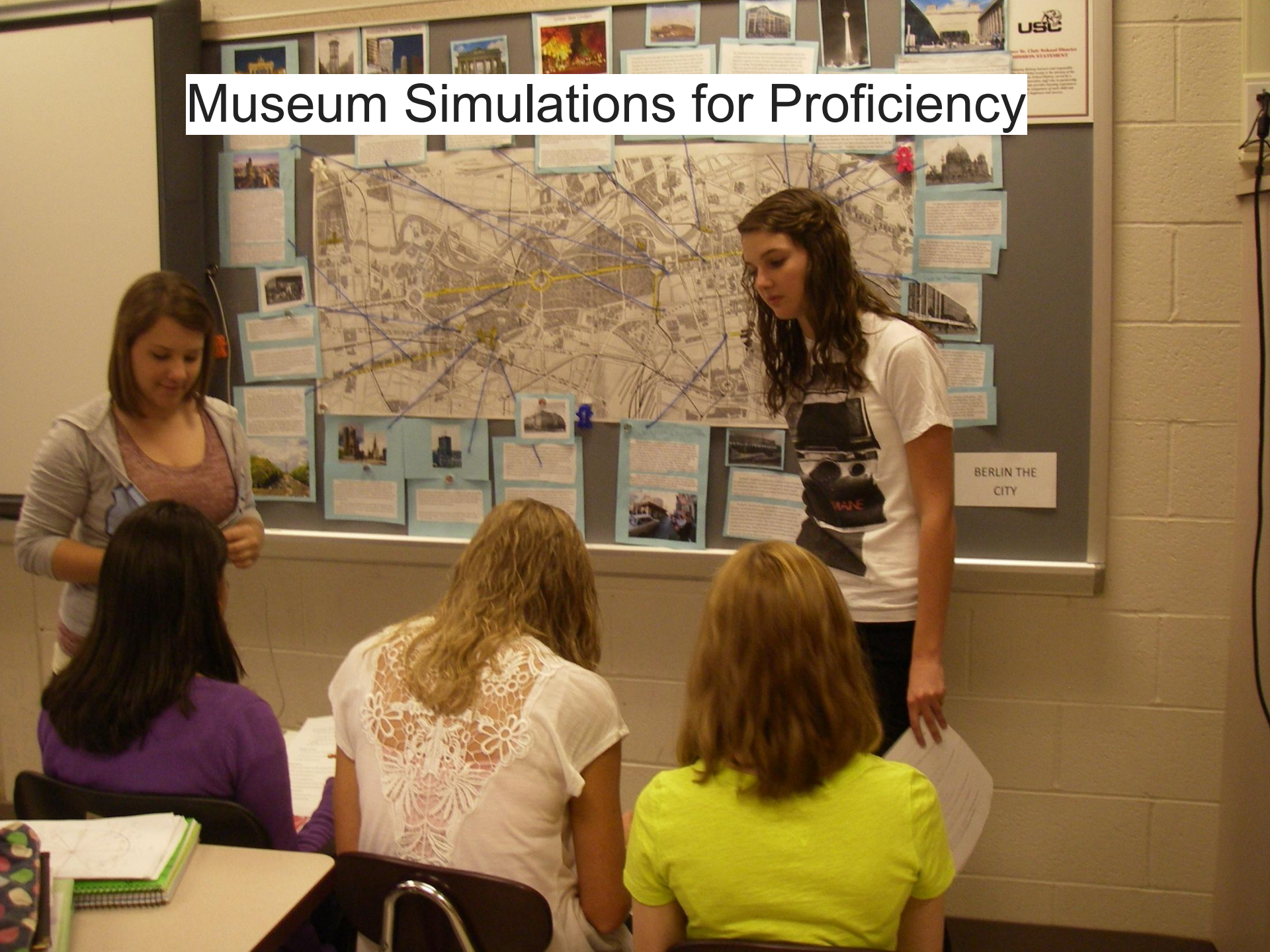
Welcome to the High School!

- Quicker accomplishments
- Focus on proficiency
- Long language sequences and more languages
- New opportunities
 - Exchanges
 - Trips
 - Clubs
 - International Studies

Course Goals for Level 2

- Speaking
 - Conduct simple conversations
 - Speak for 2+ minutes
- Writing
- Reading strategies
- Culture

Museum Simulations for Proficiency



Cafe Simulation for Proficiency



Traditional Options

- Ft. Couch French > (MYP) French 2 (1-- Passport)
- Ft. Couch German > (MYP) German 2 (1-- Passport)
- Ft. Couch Spanish > (MYP) Spanish 2 (Intermediate)

- Importance of long sequence
- Importance of teacher recommendation

Hmmm...Some Interesting Options

- ❑ Try/Add a new language
 - ❑ Chinese (4)
 - ❑ Japanese (3)
 - ❑ Latin (4)

- ❑ Try International Studies I and II
 - ❑ Semester courses 9 - 12
 - ❑ Cultural focus
 - ❑ Variety of activities - simulations, cultural games, speakers, films

- ❑ Get involved with a language club

- ❑ Start saving for an exchange

USC Student Presentations to Leverkusen Students



Beware!

- WL is an academic subject.
- WL is every day for a full period.
- HS WL shows faster progress.
- You could get really good at this!!!
- How many times have you heard...?





Family and Consumer Sciences

Electives

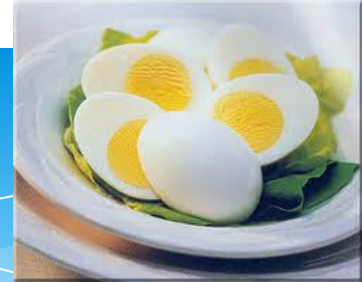
For

In-Coming Ninth Graders

FOODS 1

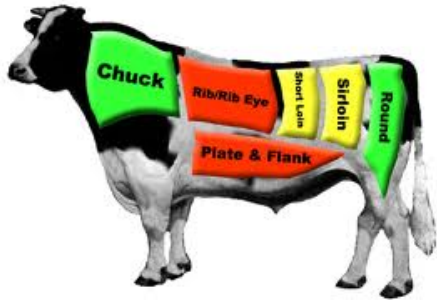
- * Prerequisite for all foods classes
- * Learn basic cooking skills
- * Eat products you prepare
- * Learn to clean up the kitchen





FOODS 2: FOOD, NUTRITION, and INTERNATIONAL COOKING

Continuation of Basic Cooking
Styles and Techniques with an
International Component



Practical Living

Family and Consumer Sciences

- * Personal exploration through determining your values, setting goals, and being able to make good decisions.
- * Develop communication skills.
- * Research careers, learn interviewing skills, and how to write a resume and cover letter.
- * Have financial success by understanding credit, insurance, and banking services.



CHILD GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

UNITS OF STUDY:

UNIT 1: CHILDREN, PARENTHOOD and YOU:

UNIT 2: CHILDREN and FAMILIES:

UNIT 3: PREGNANCY:

UNIT 4: PLANNING and PREPARATION-
LABOR and DELIVERY:

UNIT 5: NEWBORN TO ONE YEAR:

UNIT 6: PARENTING THE TODDLER AND OLDER CHILDREN:



USCHS Choral Music

- Women's Choir - Grade 9
 - Elective - no audition required.
 - Men's Ensemble - Gr 9-12.
 - Elective - no audition
 - Clarion Choir - Women, Grades 10-12.
 - Free elective - no audition required.
 - Pantheon Choir - Women, Grades 11-12, Men
 - Audition required. Independent study available for those with schedule conflicts.
 - Chanteclairs - Women, Grades 11-12, Boys grades 10-12.
 - Extra-curricular. Between 24-28 students, audition required. Students must be enrolled in Pantheon Choir.
 - Theatre - Grades 9-12.
 - Free elective - no audition required.
 - AP Music Theory - Grades 10 - 12
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- Lunch options are available
 - Classes meet five days a week, with options for schedule conflicts



Instrumental Music Options

- Marching Band
 - Co-Curricular
- Concert Band
- Jazz Lab Ensemble
 - Lunch Options
- Orchestra
 - Lunch Options



- Basic Guitar Technique
 - Full year, 3 days/week
- Beginning Instruments
 - Independent Study

Painting, Drawing & Mixed Media

1

- ↗ This class can be taken for a semester or for the entire year
- ↗ 5 days a week for 2 mods
- ↗ Learn how to use a variety of media to draw (pencil, colored pencil, pastel, oil pastel, ink), to paint (watercolor and acrylic) as well as other techniques (linoleum block printing, collage)
- ↗ 1 credit



Ceramics 1

- ↗ A beginner's course to learn about all things CLAY
- ↗ Can be taken for semester or for a year
- ↗ Throwing on the wheel (right) as well as handbuilding and sculpture
- ↗ Specific projects as well as independent projects
- ↗ Meets 5 days a week, 2 mods
- ↗ 1 credit



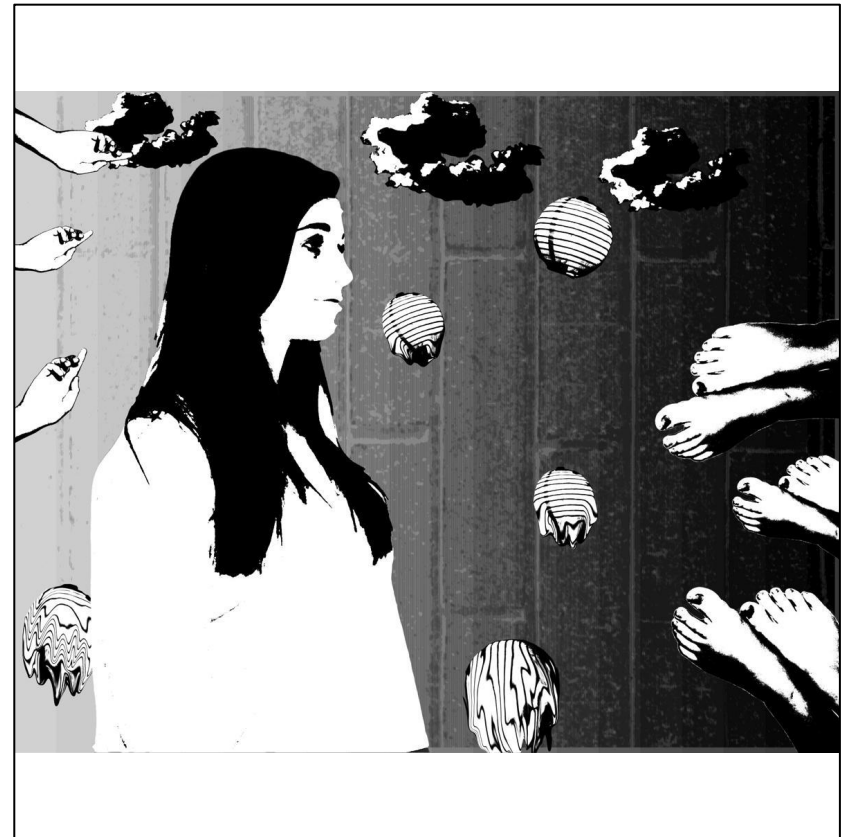
3D Art 1

- ↗ An introductory course for sculpture and jewelry
- ↗ Students create 3-D work using plaster, paper mache, and clay.
- ↗ Students learn basic jewelry making skills (sawing, filing, soldering).
- ↗ Can be taken one or both semesters.
- ↗ 1 credit



Digital Art

- ↗ A basic, introductory course to the Photoshop Suite and drawing tablets.
- ↗ Follow specific skill based tutorials and then create artwork that utilizes these skills.
- ↗ Projects based on famous artwork, as well as designing posters, book covers, etc.
- ↗ One semester class.

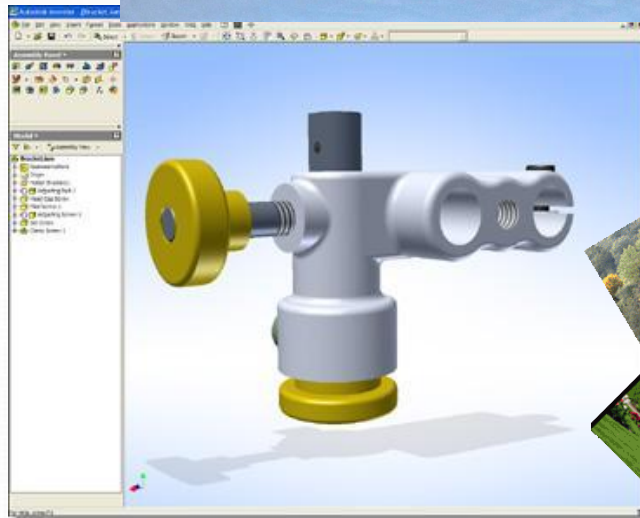
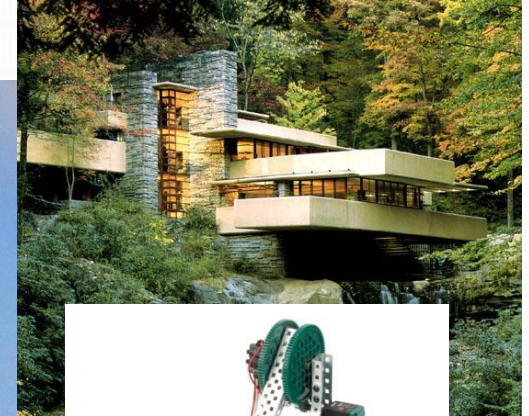


Technology Education

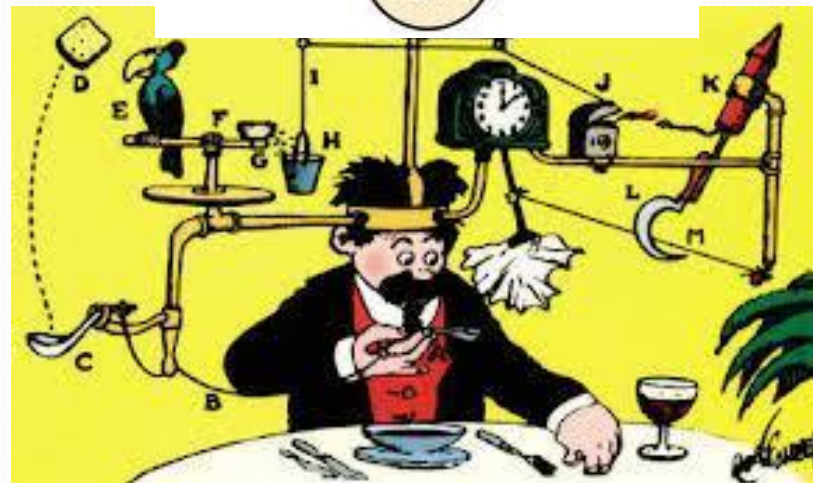
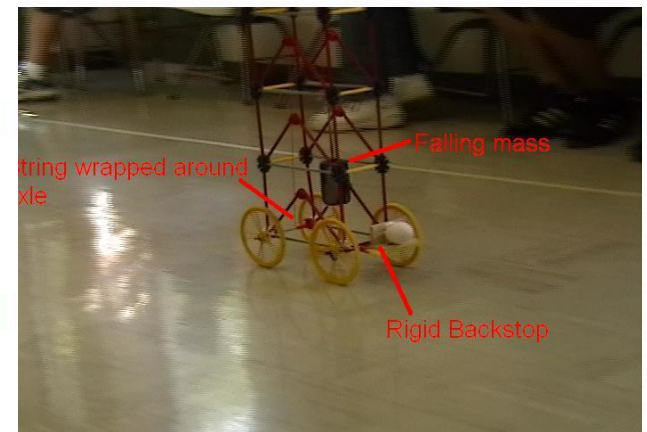
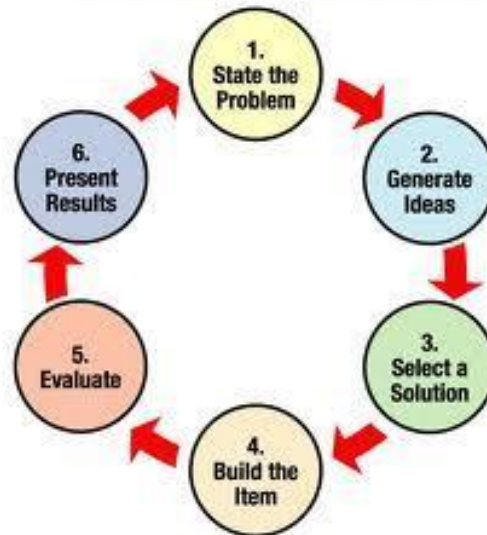
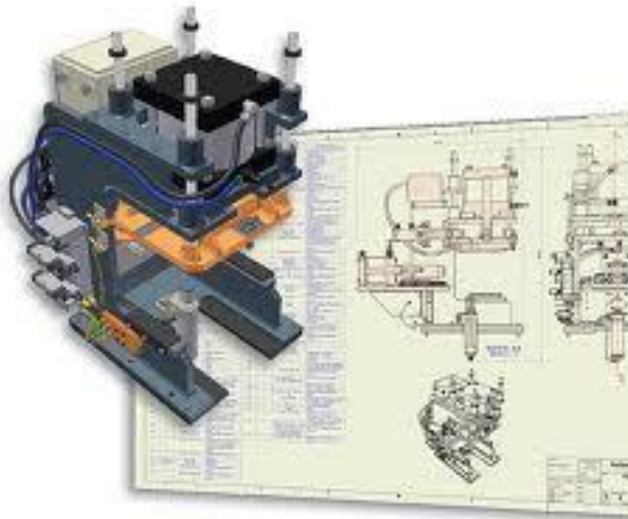
Mr. Peskorski

Technology Education

- Engineering
- Robotics
- Technology Design & Development
- Architecture
- Graphic Arts

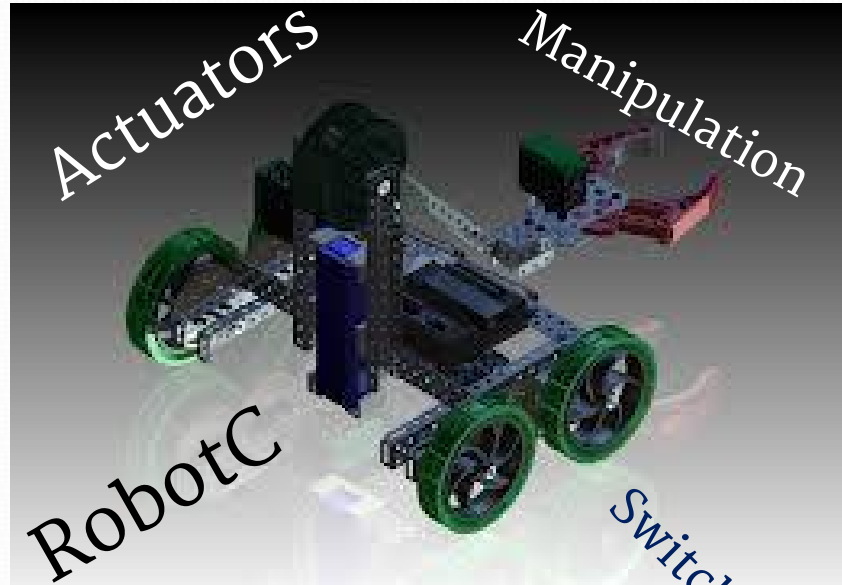


Introduction to Engineering



Introduction to Robotics

STEM



Actuators

Manipulation

RobotC

Programming

Switches

Friction

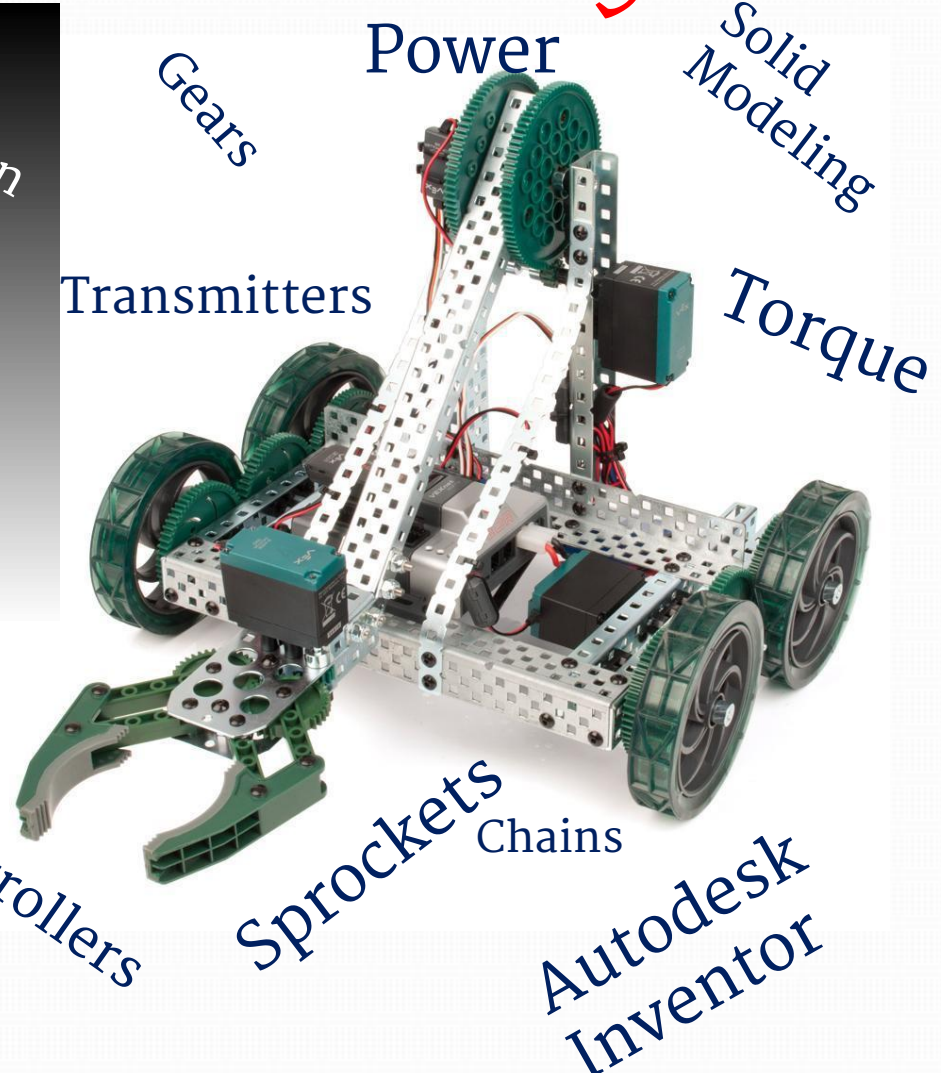
Traction

Speed

Microcontrollers

Drive train

Easy C



Gears

Power

Solid Modeling

Transmitters

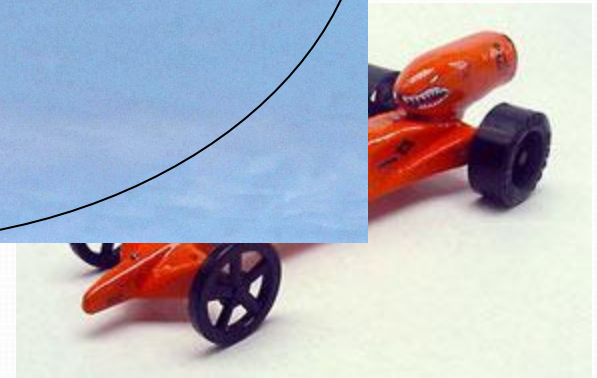
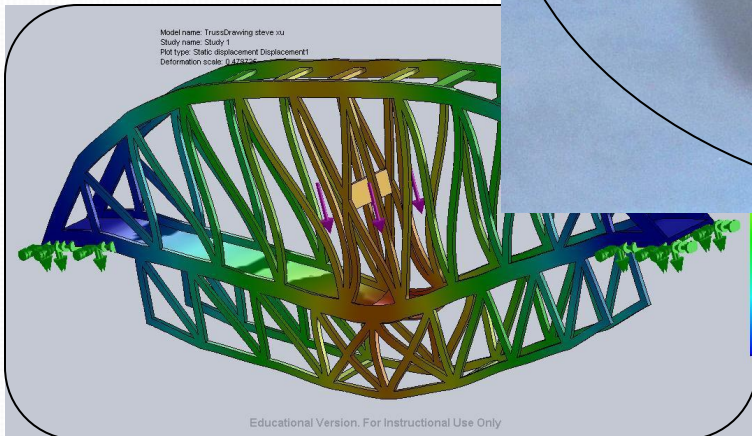
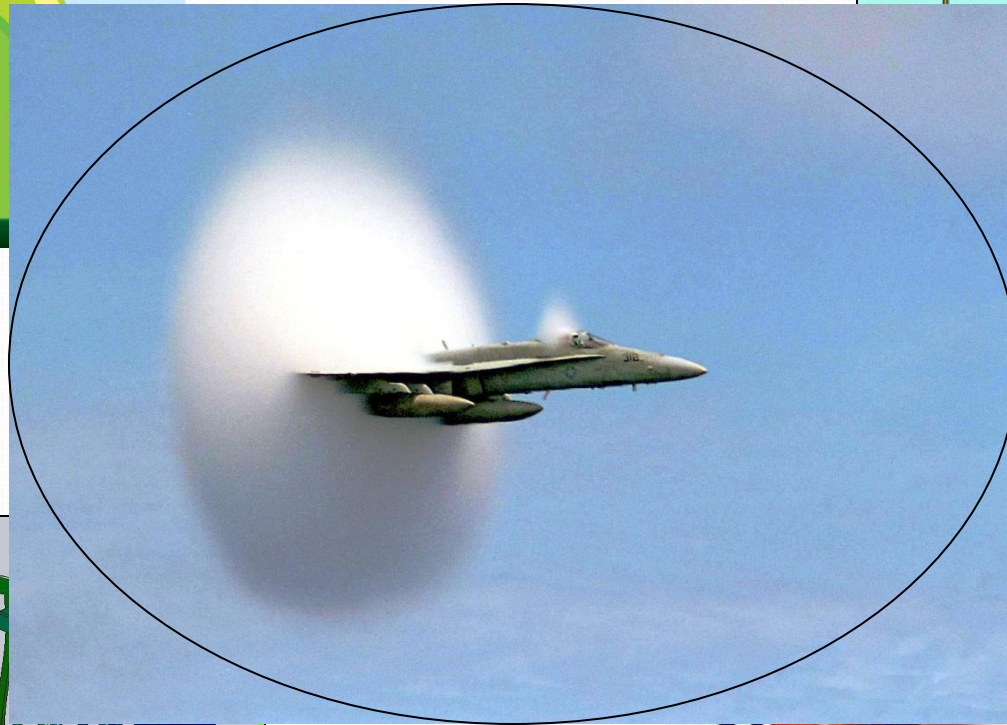
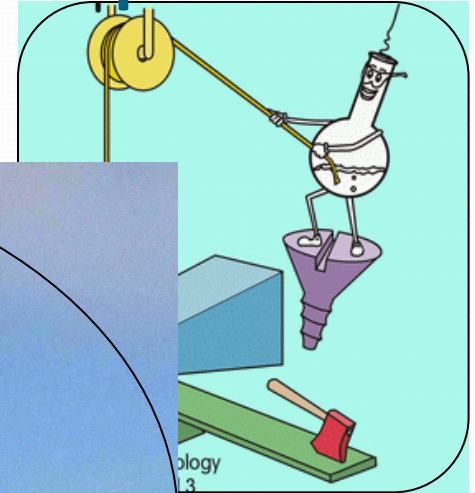
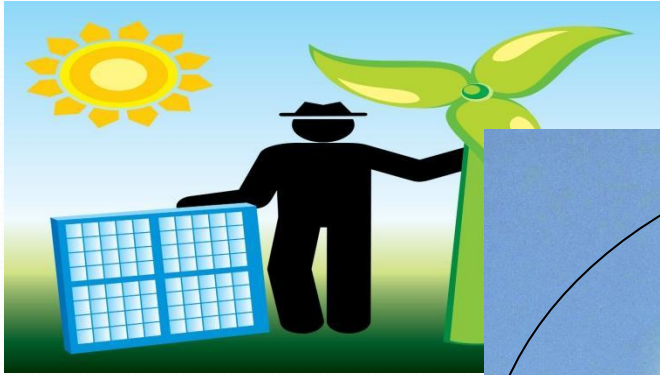
Torque

Sprockets

Chains

Autodesk Inventor

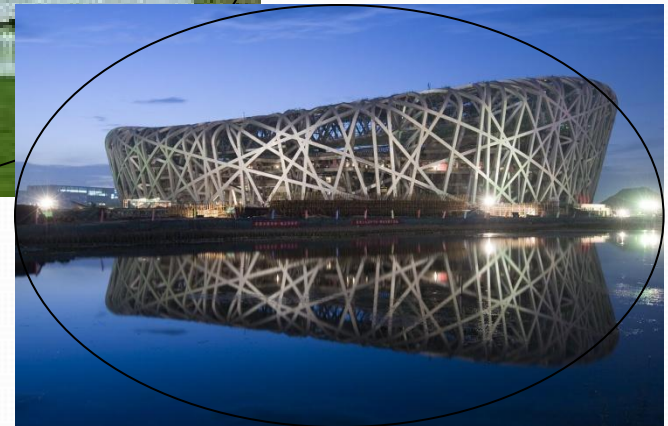
Technology Design & Development



Introduction to Architecture



Green
architecture



Wellness Education

- Health

Introduction to
Wellness

Nutrition

Diseases and
Disorders

Human Growth and
Development

STDs and STIs

- Physical Education

Fitness for Life
Lifetime Sports
Team Sports

IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)

- Full enrollment required (no individual courses)
- Completion of all component parts including:
 - Community Service (30 hours / year)
 - Personal Project
 - All required courses
- Arts & Technology electives
 - Minimum of 1 semester of each
- Completed MYP Certificate is noted on transcript
- **Questions?** Please e-mail Dr. Wagner or stop by his office (room #318)

IB Diploma Program

- 2-year program of rigorous study with an international focus
- open to 11th and 12th graders
- two options of study: IB Diploma candidate or IB Courses student
- Diploma candidates: select courses from 6 subject areas at HL or SL, and complete the course Theory of Knowledge
- IB exam is required component of every IB course

Resource Center and Testing Center

- Resource Center: quiet study area available to all students, mods 1-16 daily as drop in or as an assigned non-credit class
- Teachers available to provide assistance with academic work
- Testing Center : location for making up tests after an absence from school—open mods 1-16, and after school until 3:30 pm on Mon-Thurs. and before school on Fridays

USCHS Leadership Academy

Phase 1

- July 21 - 25, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Located at USCHS
- Field Trip Day to Ropes Course
- Leaders go where others fear to tread!
- Charles Schwahn and William Spady

USCHS Counseling

- Mr. Malarkey - A-Dud
 - Dr. Rullo - Duf - Ke
 - Mr. Marquis - Kh - N
- Mrs. McGinty - O - Ste
 - Mrs. Kirk - Sti-Z