

# CLASS SYLLABUS

**COURSE TITLE:** Introduction to Digital Technology

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Introduction to Digital Technology is an intellectually rich and engaging course that is focused on building a solid understanding and foundation in computer science and technology. This course emphasizes the content, practices, thinking and skills central to the discipline of computer science. Through both its content and pedagogy, this course aims to appeal to a broad audience. The focus of this course will fall into these computational thinking practices: connecting computing, developing computational artifacts, abstracting, analyzing problems and artifacts, communicating, and collaborating. Various forms of technologies will be used to expose students to resources and application of computer science. Professional communication skills and practices, problem-solving, ethical and legal issues, and the impact of effective presentation skills are enhanced in this course to prepare students to be college and career ready. Employability skills are integrated into activities, tasks, and projects throughout the course standards to demonstrate the skills required by business and industry.



Unsuccessful completion of the course, however, will show that you have not passed Introduction to Digital Technology.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mr. McCown, MS- University of West Georgia  
BS- Georgia Institute of Technology

Classroom/Office—Room 51/53  
Email: [mccownr@fultonschools.org](mailto:mccownr@fultonschools.org)  
Website: <http://mccownclass.com/>

**PROGRAM CLUSTER:** Information Technology

**EXTRA MATERIALS:** Voluntary student lab appropriation of \$20.00 covers LEDs, conductive ink, batteries, cables, software upgrades and other new technology. **May be paid online or with cash.**

**CAREER PATHWAY:** Computer Science or Programming

**TEXTBOOK:** There will not be a textbook issued for this course. Web-based materials will be utilized.

**SOFTWARE:** Microsoft Office 365, Ear Sketch, Scratch, Microsoft Academy

**STANDARDS:**

IT-IDT-1	Demonstrate employability skills required by business and industry.
IT-IDT-2	Explore, research, and present findings on positions and career paths in technology and the impact of technology on chosen career area.
IT-IDT-3	Demonstrate effective professional communication skills (oral, written, and digital) and practices that enable positive customer relationships.
IT-IDT-4	Identify, describe, evaluate, select and use appropriate technology.
IT-IDT-5	Understand, communicate, and adapt to a digital world.
IT-IDT-6	Explore and explain the basic components of computer networks.
IT-IDT-7	Use computational thinking procedures to analyze and solve problems.
IT-IDT-8	Create and organize webpages through the use of a variety of web programming design tools.
IT-IDT-9	Design, develop, test and implement programs using visual programming.
IT-IDT-10	Describe, analyze, develop and follow policies for managing ethical and legal issues in the business world and in a technology-based society.
IT-IDT-11	Explore how related student organizations are integral parts of career and technology education courses through leadership development, school and community service projects, entrepreneurship development, and events.

**UNITS:**

TOPICS
Unit 1 Problem Solving Process
VEXIQ Robotics Basics
VEXIQ Design and Competition
Unit 2 Web Development
Unit 3 Animations and Games
Electronics and Circuits
Dyson Disassembly
Unit 4 The Design Process
Unit 6 Physical Computing

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:**

System Administrator, Web Developer, Software Designer, Programmer, Network Technician, Help Desk Technician, Database Engineer, IT Consultant

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Class lecture/demonstration, question/answer, group work, audio-visual aids, student reports/projects, case studies, and guest speakers.

**EVALUATION:**

Semester Average	
<b>Formative Assessment:</b> Quizzes, Daily/Class Assignments	= 40%
<b>Summative Assessments:</b> Tests and Major Projects	= 40%
<b>Semester Final Exam</b>	= 20%
Total Percentages	=100%

The Fulton County grading policy is as follows:  
A=90 and up; B=80-89; C=70-79; F=Below 70

**Behavior:**

Each student is expected to adhere to the behavior expectations as outlined in the code of conduct and Haynes Bridge Middle School’s behavior expectations. Level 1 notifications and conduct referrals will also be issued to students who fail to comply with expectations.

**Late Work:**

Teachers will enter NHI (not handed in) in the gradebook to signal a late or missing assignment.. Students shall lose **10 points** per day that an assignment is late.

**Tardy Policy:**

Tardy is defined school-wide as not being inside the classroom when the final bell rings. When the final bell rings to be in class, teachers will issue the student a Level 1. The student’s tardy will be recorded and consequences will be assigned based upon the progressive consequence scale. Students who arrive to class later than the fifteen minute window will be sent to the office for cutting class.

The Graduation Coach’s primary responsibility is to work with all students to encourage academic success. They offer a variety of academic programs that can help students improve their academic performance.

The Guidance Counselors are also available to assist with any academic and social needs you may encounter during the school year.

**Students may come during team time or early before school at 7:55 to make up assignments or catch up on projects. Students who need extra time must have used class time appropriately and have their agendas signed in advance.**

**Homework Expectations:** Students that need extra time to finish an assignment may take their work home to keep up with the pace of the class. I expect any work that leaves the engineering room to come back the next day.

All students are expected to make up any missing assignment due to an absence in a timely manner. See in the student agenda for the specific guidelines.

**Daily Course Expectations: All school rules are in effect in this room. Each student is expected to adhere to the behavior expectations as outlined in the student agenda.**

**Respectful:** Check bad attitudes at the door. Do your best to stay upbeat, cheerful, and pleasant. We all have challenges. 😊  
Keep your voices low and to your table.  
Follow directions the first time they are given.

**Responsible:** Come prepared and work to the best of your ability each day. Bring a pencil, Notebook/journal, and any assigned materials to each class.  
Take care of our tools, technology, and materials.  
Get your materials ready quickly and put them back in the right spots.  
Clean up after yourself.

**Ready:** Be on time for class, turn in all assignments on time, and make efficient use of our class time.  
Pay attention and participate in class.

**Rewards:** special treats, positive notes or calls, student helpers, music while we work

**Consequences:** Reminder, teacher reprimand, notation in agenda, lunch detention, seat change, negative phone call or note, counselor/office referral.

**Agenda:** Students are provided with one agenda at the beginning of the year and are expected to use the student agenda as an organizational tool as well as a hall pass. Students will write the topic of the class and homework in their agenda every day for every class. If an agenda is lost, a new agenda must be purchased.

## ~Signature Page~

By signing below, the student and parent acknowledge that they have read this syllabus and agree to follow the policies herein.

Parents: I also agree to let my student watch selected videos in class that may be rated PG or PG-13. I also allow my student's image and likeness to be in the HBMS newsletter, our class websites, and our social media pages. I understand that the videos of projects I submit will be used as promotion for the IDT program and will be posted on the HBTV/YouTube account.

**Please Include a Lab Appropriation of \$20.00. Please pay online or with cash.**

**Online: <http://bit.ly/hbmslabfee> labeled "IDT or Intro to digital tech fee"**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name **Please Print**

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Student Name **Please Print**

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Student Signature

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Parent Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Email Address

### ~Additional Class Appropriations~

We are always looking for additional funds(means we can send more student teams to competition), equipment, and parent involvement. If you would like to donate additional funds toward your student's program or become MORE INVOLVED in your student's possible career choice, please reach out to Mr. McCown at  
[MCCOWNR@FULTONSCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:MCCOWNR@FULTONSCHOOLS.ORG)  
[HTTP://WWW.MCCOWNCLASS.COM](http://www.mccownclass.com)

