Crosslake Community School
ONLINE PROGRAM

Introduction to STEM

Crosslake Community School - Online School
2025-2026

INSTRUCTOR

Mrs. Cathy Priest

cathypriest**@crosslakekids.org**

218-203-5514 (call or text)

Office Hours: M-F 10 AM - 2:00 P.M.

(other times available with advance notice or appointment)

Help Calendar - Use this link to schedule a 25 minute help session. 24 hour advance notice of meeting so plan accordingly.

Mrs. Priest's Website

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This semester-long course introduces students to the four areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics through an interdisciplinary approach that will increase

awareness, build knowledge, develop problem solving skills, and potentially awaken an interest in pursuing a career in STEM. Students are introduced to the history, fundamental principles, applications, processes, and concepts of STEM. Students are exposed to several computer applications used to analyze and present technical or scientific information. Finally, students explore the kinds of strategies frequently used to solve problems in these disciplines. Throughout the course, students discover their strengths through practical applications and awareness of the various STEM careers.

PREREQUISITES

None

COURSE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals

: • Learn the history and importance of STEM education in the United States

• Examine qualities of STEM students using self-assessment and career interest inventory instruments

• Explore traditional and non-traditional STEM careers

• Learn about tools that can be used to plan and manage STEM projects

• Discover how the STEM field utilizes images to communicate and implement data, from animation and gaming, to medical imaging, to aerospace engineering

• Discuss the history of measurement and its significance in STEM

• Investigate how STEM careers leverage the scientific method, problem-solving, critical thinking, and creative thinking

• Evaluate how STEM influences politics, sports, art, music, fashion, and law enforcement fields

• Review the responsibilities and requirements for various STEM careers

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Students will need: Daily access to a computer or laptop with working internet access; notebook paper for notes and calculations;writing utensils; calculator, graphing calculator is recommended. There are many online calculators available.

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on: • Interactive lessons that include a mixture of videos, readings, and tasks • Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson • Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Students will need to be able to create, save, modify, and submit documents including using common programs such as Microsoft Office or Google Docs. Since the course is within the software Edgenuity, the student will need to learn how to navigate this system. If the student submits an assignment in a format that is un-openable by the instructor, that assignment will need to be resubmitted in one of the common formats. Students will need daily access to a computer with working internet connection and an intermediate understanding of how to use email and course software. Students will need to know how to contact the instructor by email, course messaging, phone text, phone call, or google hangouts if problems arise. Students must use their assigned Crosslake email.

TEACHER CONTACT & COMMUNICATION

Regular communication is critical to your success in this class. It is important that as soon as you have a question you cannot answer, that you reach out to me or your Learning Coach. Communications will be returned within 24 hours. Or, if I contact you, that you respond quickly so you can get the most out of this course..

Feedback

I will grade assignments regularly, usually within 2 school days, and provide feedback to you on these assignments. Read through the feedback and ask clarifying questions, since I write these comments to help you improve your learning in this course.

Office hours

I will be available to answer questions and help work through assignments during the common hours posted at the top of this syllabus. This is a great time to contact me since I will usually be able to get back to you very quickly.Use the Help Calendar above to schedule a Google Meet. You may also contact me directly to schedule an appointment.

Additional support

If you need additional academic support beyond regular feedback and communication with me, please let me or your Learning Coach know so that we can connect you with appropriate help.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance/Participation Policy

Attendance and participation are based on daily logins to the course and regular completion of assignments. To stay on track, you should follow the due dates for activities and assignments listed in the syllabus or learning management system. For more specific information about attendance, including excused/unexcused absences, see the Crosslake Community High School Parent/Student Course Handbook

Missing or Late Work

All work is due at the end of the semester. However, if a student waits until the last week or two to complete the coursework, it is unlikely that he or she will earn a passing grade. To help you plan and manage time, I have created a course schedule included in the syllabus. Missing work at the end of the semester will be counted as 0 points.

Questions

Please ask questions as soon as you have them; if you aren't clear on a concept, it is likely that others have the same question. The sooner you ask a question, the sooner I can help you!

Academic integrity

Ask for more time; ask for help; ask for a differentiated assignment, but don't just copy someone else's work; don't plagiarize something from the internet; don't take the credit for someone else's efforts; and don't let anyone copy your work. When caught, you'll feel ashamed and lousy about yourself. You know better!

Possible consequences for cheating in this class: Reduced assignment or test scores; "zero" scores; meeting with parents, student, and administration; possible course failure and delayed graduation. **Make sure to use your own words when answering a long-response question. Do not copy and paste from the course or other Internet sites.**

COURSE ACTIVITIES

Assignments (3 attempts possible)	10%
Quizzes (2 attempts possible, unless teacher permission to try again)	20%
Projects	30%
Tests (1 attempt, unless teacher permission to try again)	20%
Cumulative Exams (1 attempt, unless teacher permission to try again)	20%
TOTAL	**100%**

The overall grade in Edgenuity gives the grade on the work completed. The Actual Grade indicates the grade on the work including zeros for incomplete work up to the current date. The Relative Grade is the grade for the entire course including zeros for any missing/incomplete work.. Make sure to get the Relative Grade to 60% by the end of the semester to ensure a passing grade.

COURSE OUTLINE & SCHEDULE

(This is a guideline based on students starting at the beginning of the semester. Students starting later in the term will have a different schedule. Look at your course management system for the current due dates.)Supplemental Student Communication

Progress Reporting

CCHS staff will submit progress reports to the local school contact person upon completion of the student's academic term. The student and family may access regular progress reports in the online learning platform through the student gradebook anytime.

Final Grades and Submissions

Semester and final grades are submitted to the school counselor within 10 days of the end of the semester. Successfully completed CCHS courses are worth .5 semester credits; credit conversions and graduation requirements do differ between school districts. Contact your school counselor for your local district's graduation requirements and credit conversion.

Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:
Unit 1: On Whose Shoulders Are We Standing?

Unit 2: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Unit 3: How Much is Enough?

Unit 4: How to Be a Detective

Unit 5: Stem is Everywhere