



STEM Ambassadors

Fall 2011

Interdisciplinary Studies (INTDS) 100

Section # 56726

Instructors: Dr. John Heathcote
Ms. Sharon Wu

Class Times: *Lecture:* F, 8:00-8:50 am, PHY-70
Lab: 3 hours per week, arranged

Instructors / Contact Information / Office Hours:

Dr. John Heathcote	(FEM-1B, in Math Center)	638-3641 x3215	john.heathcote@reedleycollege.edu
	Office Hours: Monday Wednesday Friday (feel free to stop by at other times as well)	9:00-10:50 am 10:00-10:50 am and 12:00-12:50pm 10:00-10:50 am	

Ms. Sharon Wu	(FEM-1D, in Math Center)	638-3641 x3497	sharon.wu@reedleycollege.edu
	Office Hours: MWTh or by appointment	11:00-11:50 am (FEM 1D)	

Textbook: None **Prerequisites:** None

Grading:

Lab Hour Grade	30%
“Ambassador Hour” Grade	15%
Group Projects	20%
Weekly Class Participation Grade	15%
Individual Assignment(s)	20%

Lab Hour Grade:

The lab portion of this course is satisfied by the students’ participation in college outreach activities, including tutoring high school students, giving recruitment presentations at off-campus sites, hosting prospective student groups for on-campus visitations and sponsoring recruitment activities for prospective students. Other activities that involve preparation for these activities or activities that involve learning skills useful as a STEM Ambassador will also be counted for lab time. Over the course of the term, you are expected to participate in a total of 51 hours of these activities (an average of 3 hours per week). You will be required to submit a monthly “time card” with a list of your STEM activities.

“Ambassador Hour” Grade:

“Ambassador Hours” are the lab hours that you achieve while attending class visits at schools, doing STEM Ambassador activities on campus or at other locations. For the whole semester, you are expected to participate in a total of 17 hours of these activities. You will be informed of activities that will count as “Ambassador” activities.

Group Projects:

In order to develop new activities for the STEM Ambassadors, you will take part in group projects throughout the term. Each of these projects will be graded. In addition to your team grade, you will receive an individual grade based upon your level of participation with your group.

Weekly Class Participation Grade:

The weekly class meeting for this class is very important for both the organization of the ambassador activities and for your development as ambassadors. Because of this, you will receive a participation score for each week's class. In order to receive full credit, you need to show up to class on time, be prepared, and participate in the day's activities.

Individual Assignment(s):

During the semester, you will be expected to complete one or more individual assignments. These assignments will be graded.

Earned Percentage of Possible Points - Grade:

90 - 100%	A
80 - 89%	B
70 - 79%	C
60 - 69%	D
< 60%	F

Attendance & Participation: Your attendance and participation are important. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. **Since this class meets once per week, students missing (2) or more classes can be dropped for non-attendance.**

Expectations of STEM Ambassadors:

When you visit a school or act as a host, you are representing Reedley College. Therefore, you are expected to dress appropriately and to behave professionally.

Appropriate Apparel: When acting as a STEM Ambassador, you are expected to dress appropriately. Typically, this will involve wearing the STEM shirt or another Reedley College shirt. Inappropriate clothing would include items such as low cut clothing, excessively short skirts or shorts, or low riding pants. Please be aware that one role of this class is to prepare you for professional work.

Professional Behavior: When acting as a STEM Ambassador, students are expected to avoid profane language and to avoid inappropriate conversations. Keep in mind that you are the face of Reedley College, and the way that you act reflects upon our school.

Class Communication:

Communication between students and the instructors teaching the course or leading outreach activities is very important. Because of this, each student must use email and access the course Blackboard site in order to remain up to date with this course.

***Accommodations for students with disabilities:** If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e.: Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me, or the **DSPS office - ext 3332** as soon as possible

* Please see the Reedley College catalog for clarification of issues and additional guidelines.

Add Date:	Friday, September 2 nd	Last day to add a course
Drop Date:	Friday, October 14 th	Last day to drop this course
Holidays:	Friday, November 11 th	Veterans' Day
	Thursday, November 24 th	Thanksgiving Day
	Friday, November 25 th	Thanksgiving Holiday

Course Description:

This course is designed as a participatory class in careers and opportunities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. Students will undergo leadership training through application of individual and group leadership techniques and participate as STEM Ambassador team members in college recruitment activities, including giving recruitment presentations at off-campus sites, hosting prospective student groups for on-campus visitations and sponsoring recruitment activities for prospective students. The course content will cycle through the following topics: STEM Careers, Technological Advances in STEM, Career Skills in STEM, Environmental Technologies in STEM, STEM Education, and International Developments in STEM. Students may repeat the course when different topics are being offered. ***This semester will focus on STEM Education.***

Course Objectives:

- Organize STEM-related presentations for prospective students
- Research topics in STEM fields
- Prepare and deliver oral presentations
- Develop teamwork skills
- Organize and host events for guests and prospective student groups