

STEM Ambassadors

Spring 2023

Interdisciplinary Studies (INTDS) 101/301 – STEM Careers

Section # 53266/53267

Instructor: Dr. John Heathcote

Class Times: *Lecture:* F, 12:00-12:50 am, PHY-77

Lab: 3 hours per week, arranged

Instructor / Contact Information / Office Hours:

Dr. John Heathcote PHY-78 (559) 494-3000 x3215 john.heathcote@reedleycollege.edu
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Textbook: None

Prerequisites: None

Grading:

Lab Hour Grade	30%
Ambassador Activities Grade	30%
Group Projects	30%
Individual Presentation	10%

Lab Hour Grade:

The lab portion of this course is satisfied by the students' participation in college outreach activities, including tutoring high school or college students, or leading STEM activities both on- and off-campus. 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 an average of 3 hours per week (3×15 weeks = 45 hours). Each week, you will be required to submit a list of your STEM activities and the amount of time that you spend on each one.

Note: You can count up to 15 hours of paid activities (such as tutoring) OR 15 hours of receiving tutoring at any of the Reedley College academic support centers (Math Center, Learning Center, Writing Center). You can count an unlimited amount of volunteer activities.

For your final lab hour total, your score for this portion of the grade will be based on your hours compared to the goal (45 hours).

Ambassador Activities Grade:

We will be planning certain activities that we will participate in as a group. These activities include the STEM Training Day, the Padres Como Compañeros Conference, robotics and engineering competitions, outreach events at the new math center, and any visits to local schools / after-school programs. You are not required to attend all of these events, but this portion of the grade will be based on how many hours you participated in these events. The goal is to reach a total of 15 hours. (These hours also count for regular lab hours as well.)

Group Projects:

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

Individual Assignments:

As an individual, you will also complete assignments related to the theme of the course: STEM Careers

Grades:

For INTDS 101:

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

For INTDS 301:

70 - 100%	P
< 60%	F

Attendance & Participation: Your attendance and participation are important. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Please let me know if you are going to miss a class meeting so that I can make sure that you are up to date in the course. **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: To show yourself as part of our group, you will wear a STEM vest. (You will check out the vest at the beginning of the semester and return it at the end of the semester. If you fail to return your vest, your grade will be penalized.) When acting as a STEM Ambassador, you are expected to dress appropriately. Inappropriate clothing would include items such as shirts with foul language or offensive images, 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. We will communicate via Canvas announcements and messages for general class announcements.

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 as soon as possible.

Add Date: Friday, January 27

Drop Date: Friday, March 10

Holidays: Monday, January 16
Friday-Monday, Feb. 17-20
Monday-Friday, April 3-7

Last day to add a course

Last day to drop this course

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Presidents' Day Holidays
Spring Recess Holidays

Course Description:

This is a course on career opportunities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). Students will learn about career options and prepare presentations to be used with K-12 students to educate them about STEM careers.

Course Objectives:

- Host on-campus STEM career-related events, such as the iXplore Conference or "Spring into STEM" Day.
- Prepare and lead outreach activities based on STEM career options for K-12 students.
- Research STEM career fields.