



Valley Middle School  
Applied Technologies Syllabus  
**Mr. Podmers**  
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### Course Description

This course focuses on technology as a tool to enhance the educational experience. Students in Applied Technology will study a diverse range of computer applications/programs as they apply to educational use. Course content includes presentation, creation, design, and communication media tools, internet research and exploration, website development, graphic and desktop publishing, and digital media (audio and visual). Advanced computer operation, troubleshooting, network usage, and advanced media concepts will be addressed. Students with a strong technology interest and above average skills are encouraged to sign up. Evaluation is based on effort and project completion. Applied Technology meets every other day for one trimester.

**Assignments** vary depending on which Applied Technology class you are in and are as real life as possible, as relevant to each individual as possible and as varied as possible to appeal to different learning styles. **The assignments are broken up by the class you signed up for** (listed below), and will include, but are not limited to (there may be more projects added):

~**Graphic Design** (Photoshop)

- Folder cover
- Magazine cover
- Virtual vacation picture
- Removal or addition of object from/to picture

~**Web Design** (Dreamweaver and Weebly)

- Website analysis
- Headers/banners/footers
- Home page
- 3 other pages
- pictures, links, etc.

~**Video Editing** (Final Cut Express)

- Create, edit, and export videos and clips
- Create, edit, and export audio tracks
- LiveType: create, edit, and export animated title slides
- iDVD: create, edit, and publish videos

\*\*\*Success in "real life" depends on doing your job in a timely and professional manner and is also a part of getting a good grade in this course.

### **Attendance**

The attendance policy for this class follows the guidelines set for Valley Middle.

3 Tardies = 1 absence

8 Absences = Loss of credit (confirm)

It is the student's responsibility to obtain work missed due to absence. You may consult the instructor or other classmates to obtain missed assignments and notes. If a student is absent on the day of a due assignment, test, or quiz, he or she will be required to make up that assignment the first day back.

### **Assessment and Needs**

It is not a bad idea to have a flash drive with you each day, but it is not required. This will be used to back up all of your project work throughout the trimester. Although you will be graded throughout the trimester, you will need to keep each assignment, so that it is available AT LEAST on the school server. There is no assigned textbook for this class. Students will receive assignments and information via handouts, internet articles, and other media.

### **Grading Breakdown**

- Grading is based on a total points system. Everything is weighted the same, whether it be a test, assignment, or project, etc.

**Grading Scale:** A: 100%-93.5% A-: 93.4%-90% B+: 89.9%-86.5%

B: 86.4%-83.5% B-: 83.4%-80% C+: 79.9%-76.5%

C: 76.4%-73.5% C-: 73.4%-70% D+: 69.9%-66.5%

D: 66.4%-63.5% D-: 63.4%-60% F: <59.9%

### **Late Work**

- Students are given a reasonable amount of time IN class to get assignments done. Therefore, late work will be accepted, but with point reductions of 10% per school day.

### **Classroom Behavior**

- Students are expected to work quietly during project time. Talking and group work will be permitted at certain times as long as it is not distracting to others.
- No Gum, food, or drinks in the computer lab.
- No electronic devices such as cell phones, iPods, Nintendo DS, etc...
- Disrespect/ misbehaving when a substitute teacher is present will warrant AT LEAST a detention.
- Students must be THROUGH THE DOOR when the bell stops ringing.
- Classroom discipline will follow the rules as explained in the student/parent handbook (daily planner)
- Raise your hand to talk
- No talking while the teacher or others are talking
- Have fun

- Students are expected to treat everyone in the classroom, as well as classroom materials, with respect. This is a NO BULLY ZONE. Seriously. No bullying. There is no place for that negativity in school, or anywhere, for that matter.

**Computer Misuse**

See the student handbook excerpt listed below. Failure to follow this rule will result in loss of computer privileges, etc.

"Access to the Internet will be for specific educational purposes only, such as researching a specific topic for a classroom project. While on the Internet, students should stay focused on the topic they are researching. **Students are expressly prohibited from using the ISD 196 Internet and computer resources to:**

- Access, upload, download, or distribute any material that violates ISD 196's violence/harassment or respectful behavior policies, or is for personal use
- Internet plagiarism
- Transmit obscene, abusive or sexually explicit language
- Violate any local, state, or federal statute
- Vandalize, damage or disable the property of another person or organization
- Access another person's materials, information or files without the implied or direct permission of that person
- Violate copyright laws, or otherwise use another's intellectual property without their prior approval or proper citation, including the downloading or exchanging of private software or copying software to or from any school computer; or
- Use for unauthorized commercial purposes and/or financial gain of the user. "

**Consequences include/but not limited to:**

- Individual warning,
- Loss of Internet and/or computer privileges
- Loss of credit involving internet/computer activities
- Referral to administration for additional discipline

\*\*\*\*NOTE: Videos rated PG or lower will be shown at various times during class. Whether from Youtube.com, or DVD format. If there is a problem with this talk to Mr. P asap.

**I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the information above.**

**Students Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_**