

# ***Welcome to Exploring Technology / Digital Graphic Design & Animation!***

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## **ESSENTIAL QUESTION:**

Our driving question for this year's work revolves around communication: ***How can I communicate my message most effectively?*** In this course, we'll use the principles and elements of design through the channel of digital media to answer that question.

## **COURSE GOALS:**

The goal of this class is to provide you with skills needed to explore a career in the field of Graphic Design and Animation. Students will:

- Demonstrate proficiency in basic computer operations and file management;
- Demonstrate proficiency in design principles and applications;
- Explore and begin to master various graphics and animation applications;
- Create a digital portfolio of work as a record of all student work, projects and assignments.

This course is part of the San Diego USD's CTE program (Career College and Technical Education). CTE courses are designed to teach not only technical skills, but skills that make a student 'career-ready'. The student may continue to attend CTE courses in high school (that may earn college credit). This Exploring Technology/Graphic Design course falls under the Arts, Media & Entertainment heading and in middle school, the student is offered an introduction to the subject. The State Standards for this course can be found here: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct/sf/documents/artsmedia.pdf>

These are the Critical Concepts or Anchor Standards that will be guiding our instruction for the year:

- Apply appropriate technical skills and academic knowledge.
- Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason.
- Develop an education and career plan aligned with personal goals.
- Apply technology to enhance productivity.
- Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- Practice personal health and understand financial literacy.
- Act as a responsible citizen in the workplace and the community.
- Model integrity, ethical leadership, and effective management.
- Work productively in teams while integrating cultural and global competence.
- Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- Understand the environmental, social, and economic impacts of decisions.

**SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE USED:** Adobe InDesign • Adobe Illustrator • Adobe Photoshop •  
Adobe Animator • Digital Cameras • Classroom iMACs • Printers

## **INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES:**

This course will include lectures, demonstration, co-operative learning, student presentations and a great deal of hands-on activities.

## **REQUIRED TEXT/SUPPLIES:**

There is no required text for this class

## GRADING POLICY

- Though assignments are posted & mostly graded in Google Classroom, parents and students should use PowerSchool to monitor grades
  - Grading through Google Classroom is inconsistent and may not reflect your student's current grade. Please use PowerSchool! Contact me if you need assistance in accessing your account.
- Assignments are typically graded with a few days
- It is imperative that students track their grades and monitor their progress via PowerSchool
- Student proficiencies are measured using assignment rubrics; rubrics determine how well students have mastered a standard
- How well a student has mastered a standard determines his / her letter grade: A = Exceeding Standard, B = Meeting Standard, C = Approaching Standard, D = Beginning to Approach Standard, F = No Evidence
- Missing work will receive an immediate grade of zero (0). Students may submit late work or resubmit assignments or assessments again for higher grades.
  - No late assignments accepted after 4 weeks from the due date

## ASSESSMENT: Students will be evaluated as follows:

Classwork/Assignments/Homework	80%
Quiz/Tests	20%

### Final grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
E	Less than 60%

**Exploring Technology** is a CCTE (Career, College, & Technical Education) course. Consequently, workplace skills are taught and emphasized. Therefore, another theme for the year will relate to ***THE PROFESSIONAL WORKPLACE***.

Some questions related to this theme are:

- What does *professional* or *professionalism* mean?
- Why is professional behavior and dress important in the workplace?
- What do you think a professional workplace might look like? How would you describe it?

## CITIZENSHIP:

It is my opinion that an excellent citizen is a person who not only follows the rules or obeys the laws, but additionally attempts to make his or her environment a more positive working place for everyone. We shall follow the [Marston Rubric for Citizenship](#) to determine the Citizenship grade. Ways to achieve an excellent Citizenship grade include:

1. Be pro-actively involved in classroom discussions and activities
2. Assist fellow students
3. Help to maintain an effective learning atmosphere in the classroom
4. Assist the instructor to accomplish the classroom goals

**EXPECTATIONS:**

Marston guidelines are simple: ***Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, & Work Together.*** That pretty much covers it. Students are expected to be on task and maintain a professional attitude at all times. Since we are working with expensive equipment, a Student Behavior and Equipment Contract will be signed by parent and adhered to by student.

**CONSEQUENCES:**

- Verbal warning / Reflection time
- Apology letters
- Lunch time detention (morning classes=that day, afternoon classes=very next day)
- Phone call home and lower citizenship grade
- Referral

**HOMEWORK/MAKE UP WORK/LATE WORK:**

There is minimal homework in this class (hurray!) Almost all work is done in the computer lab. If students want to practice, after school appointments can be made. The preferred time to make up work is after school. (Office hours schedule is forthcoming). If that is not possible, you may work on assignments/projects at home if you have the proper software. If that is not possible, you may come in to work at some point during the school day (lunch, downtime in other class periods, etc.)

**It is your responsibility to find out from the instructor what work was missed, what work needs to be made up, and when it will be due. Check our Google Classroom for the missing work. If you have questions about any assignment, you must ask!**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Regular attendance is essential to pass this class and for gaining a working understanding of the Graphic Design coursework.

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Please review this syllabus with your student and fill in the Google Form to signify you have received, read and understand this syllabus. The link is at the end of this document. I am very excited to enjoy a positive, productive school year with you and your child. I truly appreciate your support! Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about anything -- ***jpaulson@sandi.net***.

[Click this link to access and complete the required the Syllabus Response Form](#)