

Northland Preparatory Academy  
School Year 2021-2022  
**Instructor: Weston Loucks**  
**Intro to Engineering**

**Contact Information:** Email [wloucks@northlandprep.org](mailto:wloucks@northlandprep.org)

**Classroom Location:** Room 203, Old Main at NPA

**Required Materials:** If there is any financial burden, please reach out to me via email, [wloucks@northlandprep.org](mailto:wloucks@northlandprep.org).

- **Pencils or pens**
- **Spiral notebook**
- **1 Pair of Scissors**
- **“Loose leaf” lined paper** for completing assignments that will be submitted.

**Greatly Appreciated Materials:** tissue, hand sanitizer

**Grades:** Grades will be calculated categorically. All assignments within the same category will have identical weight unless stated otherwise on the assignment. For example, unless stated otherwise, all written assignments are weighted equally. Your overall grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

**Participation:** 50%

**Written Assignments:** 50%

**Grading Scale:** 90% to 100% A  
80% to 89.9% B  
70% to 79.9% C  
60% to 69.9% D  
Below 60% F

**Attendance:** It is imperative that you are present in class to be able to fully understand the material and be successful in my class. For this reason please try to plan vacations and other non-essential occasions during designated school holidays. It is the policy of NPA that **“Students missing 10% or more days per semester may lose credit or be withdrawn.”** This is roughly nine days per semester. If at all possible, students should look over the missed lesson in the online text before returning from an absence. This will make it easier to get caught up when the student returns.

**Athletes and Students in Clubs:** It is common for students who are absent due to extra curricular events to see a drastic change in their grades. For this reason athletes must meet with me before their absence to determine what they will be missing and make arrangements as to when homework will be due. Unless other plans are made **before** the absence students are expected to have missed notes copied, both homework assignments completed (the homework that was due the missed day as well as the homework assigned the day they were absent) and to be prepared to take the daily quiz the day they return. Extra curricular activities are a privilege and students must work diligently to keep up on their studies.

**Homework:**

Most of the work for this course will be completed in the classroom, however some homework is possible. These will typically come in the form of a written assignment related to the projects and topic we are studying. Homework will either be handed out as a hard copy or posted in our Google Classroom which can be accessed through my teacher webpage: [www.northlandprep.org/teachers/weston-loucks](http://www.northlandprep.org/teachers/weston-loucks) Late homework will only be accepted one day late for half credit (for example, an assignment that would have received 80% if submitted on time will receive 40% if it submitted one day late, and 0% if submitted later). Late homework due to an excused absence will be given the same number of days as were missed to be completed (for example, if a student missed 2 days of class they will be granted 2 days to complete all assignments they missed, with the first day back in class counted as the first day).

**Projects and Participation:**

Attendance is key to success in this course. However, if you are ill, please take necessary precautions to ensure the safety of others. Much of the class will be centered around projects (such as building structures, creating circuits, setting up spreadsheets). For full participation points, come to class ready to learn, fully engaged in the project or written assignment, and willing to work with a team.

If class must be missed, please email me to determine a suitable alternative or make-up assignment: [wloucks@northlandprep.org](mailto:wloucks@northlandprep.org)

**Family Link:**

Grades will be updated on Infinite Campus in a timely manner. Specifically, larger assignments will be graded within 10 school days and smaller assignments within 5. Students and parents are encouraged to monitor progress often to maintain a true understanding of the student's progress in the class.

**Rules:**

Along with the rules and regulations put in place by NPA,

- Be courteous and respectful to others.
- Make effective use of every minute of every class period.
- Cell phones must not be seen during class time. The first offense will result in a verbal warning. Additional offenses may result in more severe consequences including loss of participation points.
- All students are expected to complete their own work. Collaboration with classmates on tests and quizzes will not be permitted unless otherwise stated. A student caught violating this policy, or cheating in any other manner, will receive a zero for the assignment. This includes, but is not limited to, unauthorized assistance from electronic devices.
- Water is allowed in the classroom provided the container has a lid. Students may not have other food or drink in the classroom. Exceptions may be made for students with medical conditions with supporting documentation.

**\*\*I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THIS SYLLABUS AS NEEDED. ANY MODIFICATIONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS AND POSTED IN OUR GOOGLE CLASSROOM\*\***

Dear Parents,

I am looking forward to meeting you and your child! Northern Arizona University is my alma mater where I studied some engineering, taught math, did research in cryptography and algebraic coding theory, and completed my MS in Mathematics. I am also a husband and father – my son turned 2 last Spring! I have been working in various roles in education since 2008.

I am greatly looking forward to working with your child and introducing them to the exciting field of engineering. We will learn about the various careers and subfields within engineering, as well as important skills for engineers to have such as teamwork, organization, project management, design, and reporting. There will be plenty of hands-on projects! For your child to thrive in their studies, it is not only imperative that they are present in my class as much as possible, but also that they have a support system at home. Along with a structured “at home” educational extension it is very important for there to be an open line of communication between parents and teachers. For this reason, please do not hesitate to contact me with any question you have regarding your child’s progress in my class.

Please sign below stating that you read the attached syllabus.

Students Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Helpful hints as to how parents can ensure their student’s success.**

- Encourage student to read over missed section in the book when they are absent.
- Ask student if they have checked their answers to the homework online.
- Set a time each week to look over student’s grades on FamilyLink with them.
- Encourage student to come in for help when needed.