**Innovations & Inquiry Based Learning** 

Syllabus

| Discovery Middle School | Teacher: | Mrs. Amanda Haynes |
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| 1304 Hughes Road | Email: | ahhaynes@madisoncity.k12.al.us |
| Madison, AL 35758 | Class Webpage: | <https://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us/domain/1390> |
|  | Phone Number: | 256-837-3735 ext. 82001 |

| **Course Description:** | This elective is in a project-based learning environment in which students create and develop ideas to grow a more successful and innovative future. Students will have the opportunity to lead their own passion projects for what most interests them. In this reflective and engaging elective course, students will be motivated to innovate by participating in hands-on project based learning. |
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| **Course Objectives:** | Students will explore, create, partner, and produce both individually and in groups. Innovations allows students to learn new content while taking base products and making them more marketable and personalized. |
| **Classroom Expectations:** | Classroom Rules and Procedures:  1. Arrive to class on time with a growth mindset.  2. Food and drink are not allowed in STEM Lab (WATER in  spill-proof containers is permitted.)  3. Treat yourself and others with respect.  4. Behave in a manner conducive to learning for all.  5. Keep your hands and your belongings to yourself.  6. Clean your workspace with care for school belongings and facilities.  7. Follow all rules listed in the Madison City Schools Code of  Conduct and the DMS Student Handbook as well as the STEM Safety Contract.  [Haynes Classroom Management Plan](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zTLfwrn9pJdWHfY4-fmspgZYGusVLcHt/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=112973044071119196734&rtpof=true&sd=true) |
| **Textbook:** | Students will not receive a textbook for this course. |
| **Grading:** | Test grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as work can be made up and graded for excused absences only. |
| **Make-up Work:** | Under normal circumstances, it is expected that students will submit previously assigned work upon return to school after an excused absence. All work missed on the day(s) of excused absences must be made up within a timeframe determined by the teacher. **It is the responsibility of the student to ensure he or she makes up work following excused absences. Students will not receive credit for and will not be allowed to make up any assignments, tests, work, activities, etc., missed during unexcused absences.** (DMS 2024-2025 Student Handbook) |
| **Late Work:** | For work turned in late, the following policy will apply:  • The assignment will drop one LETTER grade for each school day that passes. For example, if an assignment is turned in one school day late, the highest a student can receive is 89%; two days late, 79%, etc.  1 day late = maximum credit 89%  2 days late = maximum credit 79%  3 days late = maximum credit 69%  4 days late = maximum credit 59%  5-10 days late = maximum credit 50%  • Half credit is always better than no credit! Until work has been made up, “Missing” (which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book. This will be updated once work is completed and turned in. |
| **Accommodations:** | Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents. |
| **Technology** | Concerning laptop utilization:  1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities.  2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.  3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.  4. Laptops will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher and should be brought to school daily.  Cell phones and headphones are only permitted at the sole discretion of the instructor under specific circumstances. DMS is a phone free zone other than designated areas (such as hallway and cafeteria). |
| **Materials and Supplies:** | REQUIRED:   * $10 Course Fee can be paid on DMS Webpage: <https://madisoncityal.csiepay.com/Views/Payment/Pay.aspx?pageid=803500de-8604-4e51-99b3-2eb5a010c99e> * MCS Issued Chromebook/device. * Paper (loose or notebook) and pencil   OPTIONAL Teacher Wish Lists for Supplies and Materials:  [**Amazon Wishlist**](https://a.co/7DWjYli) (items needed in the STEM Academy to complete units this year.)    [**TPT Classfund**](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/ClassFund/Mrs-Haynes-19107?ownCampaign=&utm_campaign=ClassFundDashboard) (crowd-source lessons and ideas to keep classes constantly state-of-the-art and engaging). |

| **18 Week Plan *\*Subject to Change*** | |
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| **Week** | **Unit** |
| **1** | Classroom Procedures and Student Handbook Review / Team Building Activities |
| **2** | STEAM: Paper |
| **3** | Continue STEAM: Paper; Begin STEAM: Dye |
| **4** | Finish STEAM: Dye |
| **5** | Begin STEAM: Clay |
| **6** | Finish STEAM: Clay |
| **7** | Begin STEAM: Bread |
| **8** | Finish STEAM: Bread |
| **9** | Begin STEAM: Fibers |
| **10** | Begin STEAM: Weaving |
| **11** | Finish STEAM: Weaving |
| **12** | Begin STEAM: Cheese |
| **13** | Finish STEAM: Cheese |
| **14** | Begin STEAM: Candles |
| **15** | Finish STEAM: Candles |
| **16** | Begin STEAM: Soap |
| **17** | Finish STEAM: Soap |
| **18** | Exam Review / Final Exam |