



GT Block

Pathway Department Chairs

JP Denato
Engineering



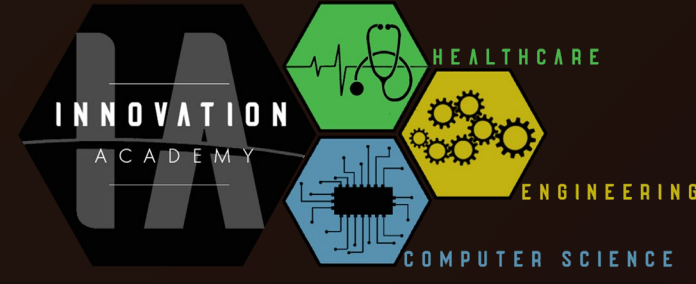
Cara Dawes
Health Science



Zabby Heying
IT



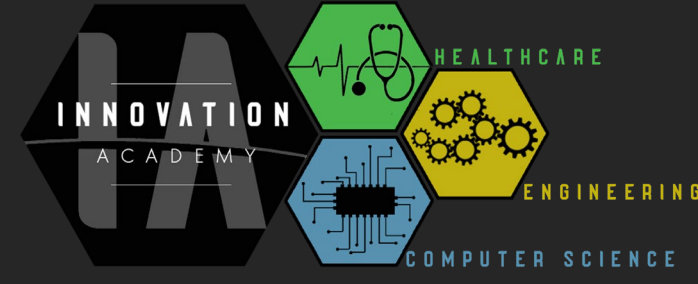
What is the GT Block?



The GT Block course is based on a cross curricular, project-based framework designed by the CEISMC group at Georgia Tech specifically for Innovation Academy.

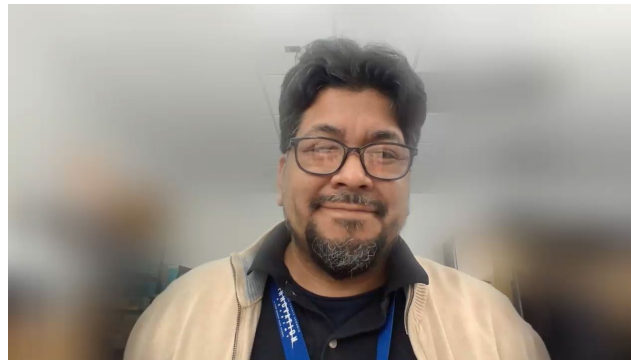
This unique course combines the three CTAE departments within IA: Information Technology, Engineering and Health Science.

Purpose of the GT Block



- Students in the GT Block course learn and explore the fundamental skills in all three pathways so that they can discover their major pathway at IA. They will be asked to declare a major pathway in December.
- The GT Block course also immerses students in true cross-curricular, design thinking projects while simultaneously earning course credit for all three introductory courses.
- By earning three credits, they also will have to opportunity to complete multiple pathways if desired.

Meet the Teachers!!



GT BLOCK 5-6 Pod

Foundations of Engineering, Intro to
Healthcare Science, and Intro to
Software Technology



Meet your GT Block Teachers - Periods 1/2



Mr. Rodin, ENG

rodind@fultonschools.org

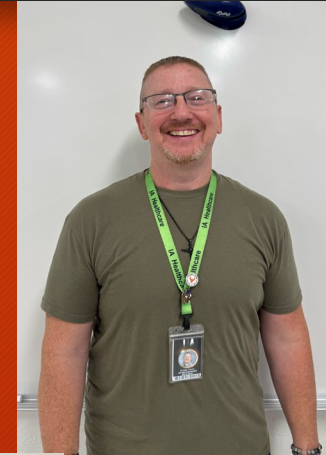


Mr. Beck, HS

beckw@fultonschools.org

Ms. Thornton, IT

thorntonc1@fultonschools.org



Mr. Mobley, ENG

mobleyj@fultonschools.org

Mr. Fouts, HS

foutsj@fultonschools.org

Mr. Vacca, IT

vaccam@fultonschools.org



Meet your GT Block Teachers - Periods 3/4



Mr. Rodin, ENG
rodind@fultonschools.org



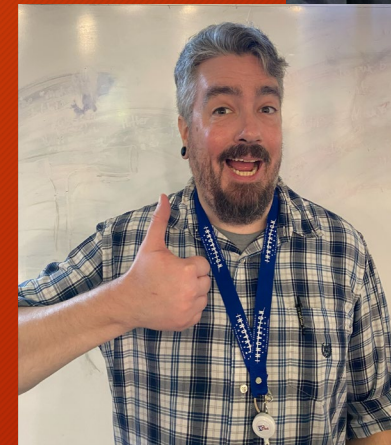
Mr. Beck, HS
beckw@fultonschools.org
Ms. Thornton, IT
thorntonc1@fultonschools.org



Mr. Money, ENG
moneyp@fultonschools.org

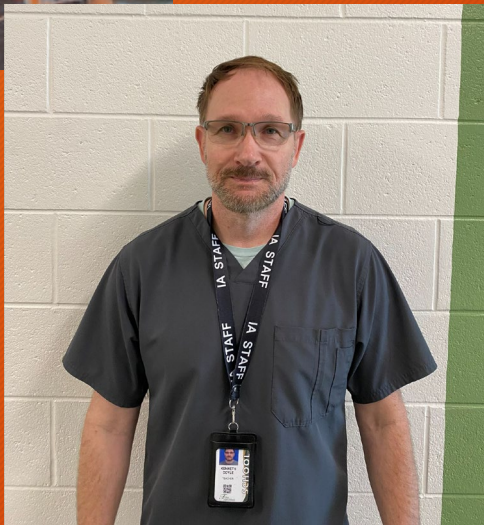


Dr. Chann, HS
channa@fultonschools.org



Mr. Vacca, IT
vaccam@fultonschools.org

Meet your GT Block Teachers - Periods 5/6



Mr. Denato, ENG

DenatoJ@fultonschools.org

Mr. Coyle, HS

coylek1@fultonschools.org

Mr. Thurber , IT (long term sub)

mcgeeb@fultonschools.org

Meet your GT Block Teachers - Periods 7/8



Mr. Money, ENG

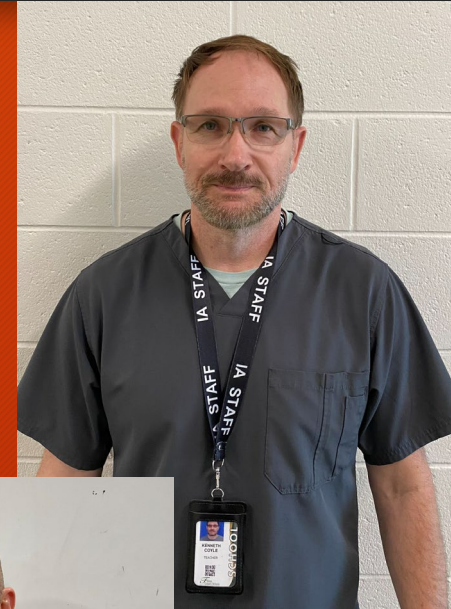
moneyp@fultonschools.org

Mr. Fouts, HS

foutsj@fultonschools.org

Mr. Widmann, IT

widmannng@fultonschools.org



Mr. Rodin, ENG

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Mr. Coyle, HS

coylek1@fultonschools.org

Ms. Thornton, IT

thorntonc1@fultonschools.org



GT Block in Action



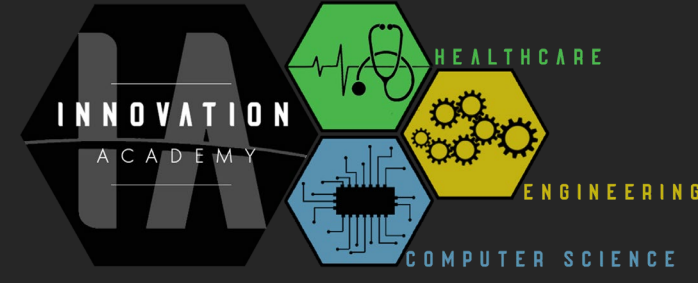
Curriculum

A brief list of some topics students will learn and be exposed to during the year in GT Block. The table to the left provides the schedule and central theme for each unit.

- Engineering Design Process
- Safety and Use of Tools
- Geometric Dimensioning
- Electricity Basics
- Breadboards
- CAD
- Orthographic Drawings
- Nutrition
- Microbial Growth
- Human Anatomy
- CPR & AED
- Ethics in Healthcare
- Human Development
- Vaccination
- Web Development
- Programming

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Unit 1: Intro to GT Block and Design Thinking Sprint	Unit 5: Robotics in Healthcare
Unit 2: Biologically Inspired Design solutions for Natural Disaster recovery and support	Unit 6: WOW Unit
Unit 3: Biologically Inspired Design for Food Scarcity and Waste solutions	Unit 7: Inventure Prize
Unit 4: Anatomy & Physiology - Design thinking for prosthetic design	

Logistics of the GT Block



- GT Block meets for two class periods each day.
- Students will have three GT Block teachers, one from each of the three departments. They will rotate between the three teachers. Students typically see one teacher each day or week, but classes have the flexibility of combining to work on projects. The rotations will vary by unit.
- Example schedule:
 - Monday: Combined classes in a classroom hub
 - Tuesday: HC class
 - Wednesday: ENG class
 - Thursday: IT class

How does my child know where to go?

The current rotation schedule will be posted in Canvas, will be written on whiteboards in the classrooms and communicated to students each day.

The order for rotation is as follows:



You can expect weekly emails that will include the week's topics and rotation. The weekly emails will start on Monday.

Communicating with Teachers

- When emailing a GT Block teacher, please CC the other two teachers in the pod.
- Teachers will respond within 48 hours.
- We encourage you to set up a Parent Canvas (Observer) account so that you can keep up with new student announcements, rotations and assignments. Instructions for setting up this account were included in the Beacon last week.

Additional Help

My child doesn't understand an assignment or needs additional help. What should they do?

1. Ask the teacher in class.
2. Email the teacher via Outlook.
3. Wednesday morning tutoring from 8:15 – 8:45
 1. IT in Room 253
 2. HC in Room 147
 3. ENG in Room 184
4. Flex Friday tutoring from 8:55 – 10:10



Absences

Students should check Canvas for the current rotation and any missed assignments.

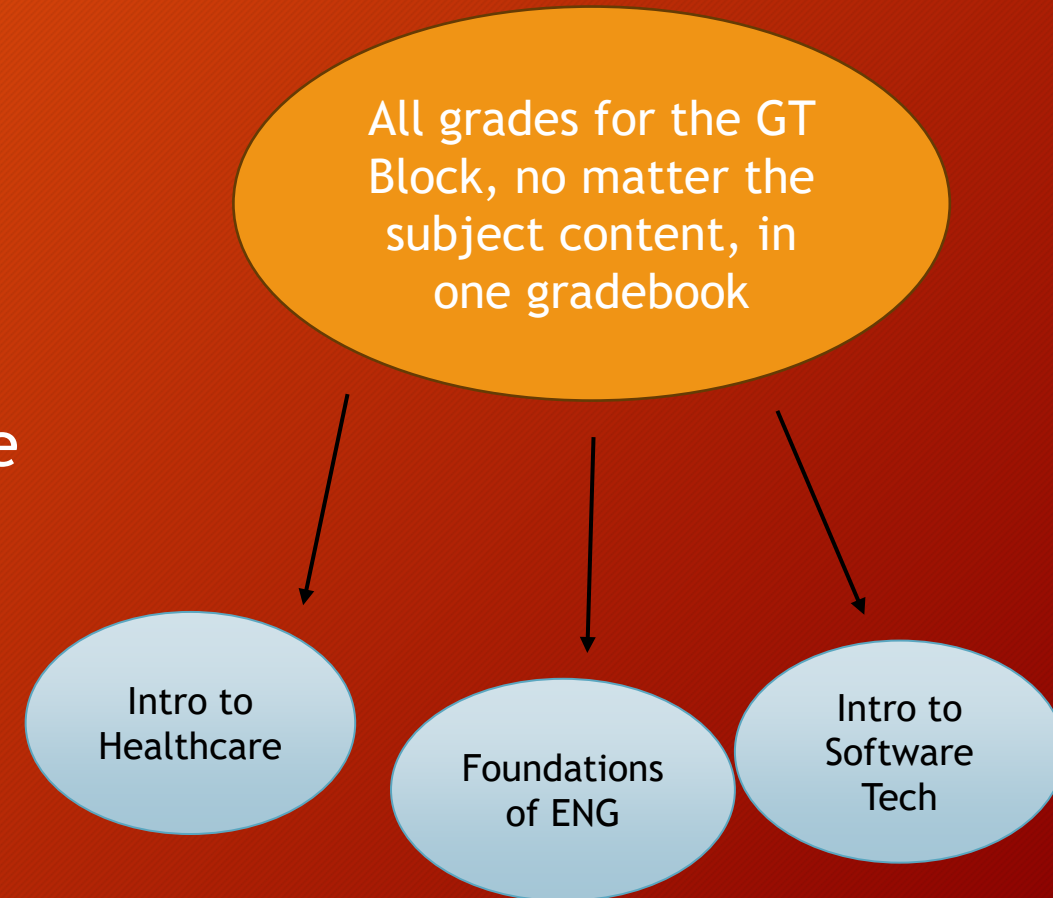
Students should join in when they return from an absence with the current rotation.

Students should email if they have questions about work that was missed and should CC the other two teachers.



Grades in the GT Block

- The GT Block embeds three courses within it.
 - Introduction to Software Technology
 - Foundations of Engineering
 - Introduction to Healthcare Science
- Students will earn one course grade in Infinite Campus each semester. That course grade will be used for all three embedded courses on the transcript.



Grades in the GT Block

Example:

Your child earns a 95 (A) as the grade at the end of the fall semester.

The Fulton County Schools transcript will show

- 95 (A) in Intro to Software Technology
- 95 (A) in Foundations of Engineering
- 95 (A) in Intro to Health Science

The course listed on your student's schedule is the main course taught by their Day 1 teacher. This gradebook is shared by all three GT Block teachers.

Questions to ask your Student about GT Block

- What did your class do for the unit kickoff?
- What will the end of the unit project look like?
- Which teacher were you with today? How does what you did in class today tie into the project?
- How is it working with your group?
- What is your role in your project group?
- Which part of the project or unit is most interesting to you?
- How or where does healthcare/engineering/information technology fit into your project?
- Does anything about this project make you interested in a pathway you weren't before?