Sinaloa Middle School
A California School To Watch
A California Gold Ribbon School
2026-2027

COURSE TITLE: Industrial Technology/Wood Shop I

TEACHER'S NAME:Bret Knizek

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School Website: Sinaloa.simivalleyusd.org

I am thrilled to be in my 22nd year at Sinaloa. I am a CTE credentialed teacher. I graduated from Humboldt State, now Humboldt Cal Poly. I teach woodshop, english and history. I am a member of the Channel Island Woodturners association. I enjoy cooking and golf. I have raised 4 children. My oldest son, Andrew, and his wife Keilah emigrated to Japan last year. He is learning Japanese and doing long distance post production work. They have made me a cat Grandpa. Olivia was married March, 2025 to Landon. They are expecting a baby on Feb. 21, my birthday. She is a Dr. of Psychology/sports. She just started a job working with 8 teams. Landon is a 6th grade teacher. Avery is the father to my 2 grandsons and my granddaughter, Sierra Rose. Forrest is 6 yr and starting 1st grade. Carter is 4 and Sierra is 3. His family lives in the Gold country, east of Sacramento. Colin graduated UC Berkeley two and half years ago in Data Science. He works for John Hopkins in Maryland and is working on his Masters in Electrical Engineering. He does not like the east coast and is hoping to return to California.

Course Standards/Objectives Educational standards describe what students should know and be able to do in each subject in each grade. In California, the State Board of Education decides on the standards for all students, from kindergarten through high school. Information regarding specific standards can be found at www.cde.ca.gov

Students will be able to identify appropriate technical skills required for specific projects. Students will practice safe and appropriate use of tools and materials. Students will be able to identify, use and care for the appropriate tools for each task. Students will be able to follow basic technical instructions. This course is project based. Students taking this class for the first time will make 2-3 pre-designed projects in the 1st quarter. Students will pick and design 2-3 projects of their choice in the 2nd quarter. Students that are repeating this class will get to pick their projects, in consultation with the instructor. All students will make a cutting/charcuterie board for a final project. Students will also be offered the opportunity to make projects for the community and other teachers. They will be graded accordingly.

Classroom Rules and Student Responsibilities

◆ **In our School ...Sinaloa's SABER CODE is the foundation for behavior expectancies on our campus. This Code, along with our standards for citizenship/work**

habits grades, the school tardy policy, and the school discipline policies, are included in the Agenda book, which can be found online at sinaloa.simivalleyusd.org. In this classroom...

We have many routines and procedures incorporated through the use of CHAMPS (guidelines for Conversation, Help, Activity, Movement, Participation, and Success) that students will learn and follow. We respect each other, including others personal property and are honest with others and ourselves. All students have the right to learn and each student has the responsibility of allowing all students that opportunity by creating a learning and safe atmosphere in the classroom where we can strive to do our best! Students who display positive choices may receive a positive note in the agenda book or phone call home, school positive referral and other rewards for following class expectations and procedures.

SAFETY is paramount in the woodshop. If a student does not follow the safety rules, they will sit out that particular class working from the book and bring home a "Safety Violation form". The student will discuss the safety violation with their parents and bring the form back signed before they work again. This information will also be given to the administration. If a 2nd violation occurs then the student will have a 1-day class suspension and I will call home, and we will discuss the importance of safety. Since safety is so important, any further safety violations will require a 2-day class suspension and an N in citizenship.

Major Violations may require students to use only hand tools for the rest of the semester. Other consequences for behavior will be verbal warning/Teacher-student conference/parent contact/detention.

Students who continue to not meet safety standards will not be considered for repeating the Wood I course.

All the tools in the shop belong to SVUSD. The students will be shown the correct way to use the tools. The student will be responsible for replacing any tools that are willfully damaged.

CLASS MATERIALS—Only a pencil will be needed daily. It is the student's responsibility to be prepared for class each day with the correct materials. If you are unable to get materials, please see the teacher so together a plan can be put into place to ensure students are prepared for class each and every day!

- It is the student's responsibility to make sure that all projects are put away in the correct table box.
- The student is expected to do their assigned clean up job daily.

DONATIONS*:* The Wood shop operates on donations. I am asking for a donation of $25 . If you have other supplies that you feel could be useful, please email me. We just got a donation of hardwood from a local cabinet shop. You can send cash, or donate through the Sinaloa website or make out a check to Sinaloa Middle School.

❖ **GRADING POLICY**: I will post to Aeries every week. Your student will demonstrate mastery in this class by PROJECTS 70% and PAPERWORK (Quizzes, tests, weekly journals) 30%. Grading scale: 90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D. Students will be given a grading rubric with each project. Since we do not have many projects (2-3 for the quarter), it is very important that projects be handed in ON TIME! 10 % will be deducted from the grade for each day the project is late. Grades will not be affected for late work due to an excused absence.

Sinaloa Middle School
A California Distinguished School
Simi Valley Unified School District

Dear Parent/Guardian,

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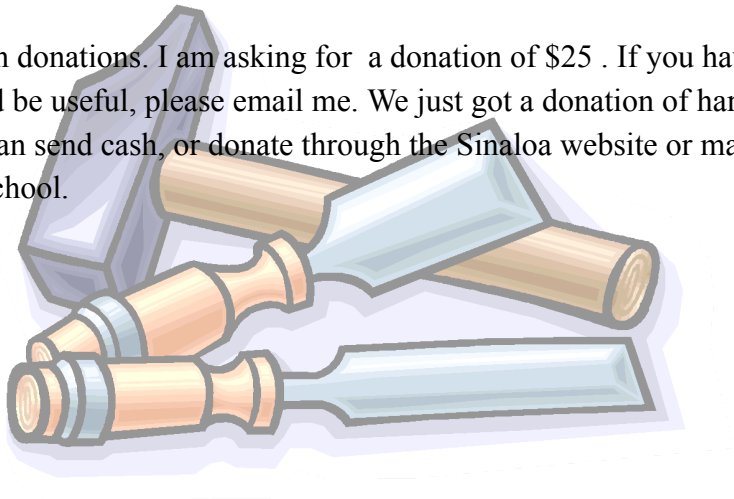

The suggested amount is $25 for students in semester classes

Please make checks out to Sinaloa Middle school.

Or if you like, Cash or on Sinaloa Web site

https://simivalleyusd.graystep.com/(S(wobfdr2jvdkqmo2u0mmovshu))/Index.aspx

Remember…Your donation is our only source of funding for materials.

Sincerely,

Bret Knizek

Bret Knizek
Woodshop Teacher
bret.knizek@simivalleyusd.org

☐ I have read this letter and I am enclosing a donation in the amount of _____

☐ I have read this letter and am unable to include a donation at this time. _____

Student Name (Print) _____ Block ☐

Parent Signature _____

WHETHER carrying a tool, working with one, or simply walking through the shop, I am expected to be _____

I will be shown how to do things safely and correctly—I must follow these directions. I

will avoid quick or aggressive behavior. I will never run: it is the most dangerous thing I can do in a shop! I will follow the ABC's of safety: ALWAYS BE CAREFUL. This includes: tucking in loose clothes and rolling up long sleeves, wearing safety glasses whenever working with tools, removing loose jewelry and putting back long hair.

I must _____

in the shop. Listening to others while they are speaking is critical to learning all shop procedures. I must not do anything to keep others from learning. It is important that I allow others the chance to work. To be called upon, I must _____

will respect all tools as if they are my own. I must use them only in the way they were designed. I will never abuse a tool. Tools with loose parts should be turned in to be repaired. Asking for guidance with an unfamiliar tool is critical. Being aware of others and correcting an unsafe situation is the most responsible thing I can do.

I WILL _____

at the end of class. If I can make a mess, I must be responsible enough to pick it up. Putting tools in their proper place is mandatory. In addition, working as a team to account for all tools will be expected.

Adherence to this contract will allow me to utilize the shop and tools. Failure to follow the rules will result in loss of shop time and the use of the tools.

_____ _____ _____

Student Name Student signature block



THE RONALD REAGAN ACADEMY OF COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP SINALOA MIDDLE SCHOOL