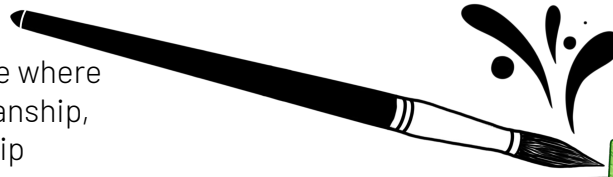




What is this class about?

DIY Design Lab is a hands-on elective where students explore creativity, craftsmanship, design thinking, and entrepreneurship through weekly maker projects.



M S . R O S A N D E R

DIY Design Lab

Room: D-16

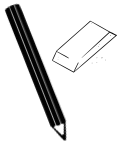
Email: natalie.rosander@chicousd.org

Phone: 530-895-4110 Newsletter: First Wednesday of the month!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
LOG INTO MY DIGITAL CLASSROOM**



Why is an elective like this important?



- **Develops real-world creative skills:** Students practice hands-on making, design thinking, and problem-solving—skills used in fields like product design, marketing, architecture, fashion, and entrepreneurship.
- **Builds persistence and process thinking:** Projects involve trial, error, and revision, students learn how to work through challenges instead of only focusing on getting a “correct” answer.
- **Encourages self-expression and engagement:** Students have opportunities to make meaningful, personal work, which can increase motivation and help them see themselves as capable creators.
- **Connects school to life after graduation:** Through journaling, branding, and product mockups, students get an introduction to entrepreneurship, planning, and visual communication that can translate into careers or side projects.

We work by two MOTTOS:
1. Every week is a new build
2. Process is the product.



Ways to be **SUCCESSFUL** in this class:

- **Make it, don't just plan it**
- **Process over perfection**
- **Own your work**
- **Think like a designer**

Course Cost & Responsibility for Materials

- DIY Design Lab is offered as a free elective; however, the materials used in this course are expensive and often non-reusable. Supplies may include specialty paper, adhesives, tools, crafting materials, printing resources, and equipment used for student projects.
- Because the class relies on shared materials, students are expected to treat all supplies, tools, and workspace with respect and care. Misuse, waste, or intentional damage of materials impacts the entire class community.
- If a student repeatedly disrespects materials or demonstrates unsafe or irresponsible use of supplies, they may be removed from DIY Design Lab and placed into a different elective where resource-intensive materials are not required. The goal is not removal, but preservation of a safe, respectful, and sustainable maker environment for all students.





Class Procedures

The procedures listed below are an example of how each class period is broken up. These procedures may change for special circumstances like a substitute or schedule change.

Example of Weekly Schedule:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tutorial & Notebook Day!	Start the example & turn in	Create your own! Mockup in journal	Work Day	Turn in project & complete reflection



Attendance

Your academic success in this class relies heavily on your presence, participation, and understanding of concepts. If you are absent it is your responsibility to make up any missing work.



Classroom Rules & Expectations

- Come to class on time
- Respect each other, the teacher, projects and class supplies.
- Participate in class without creating distractions. This includes excessive talking, noises, distracting items, or horseplaying.
- Remain in your assigned seat during instruction and do not get up unless given permission to move around the room.
- Do not leave the classroom for any reason without permission.
- Food and drink are not allowed in class unless a nurses note is provided.

Consequences

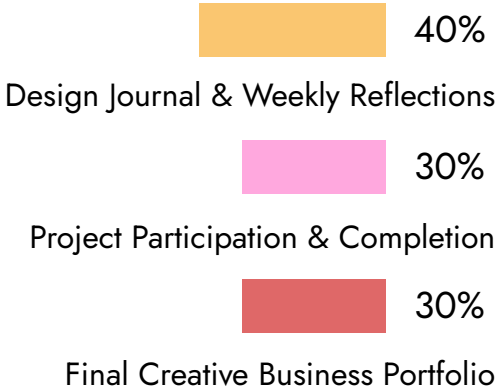
1. Students will be provided a warning or redirection for minor behavior issues.
2. Parent/Guardian contact major or repeated minor offenses
3. Detention or Reset for class period
4. Administrative consequences and 2nd Parent/Guardian contact.

*** If a student's actions are beyond minor infractions a parent/guardian contact will be made sooner with possible administrative consequences.

Technology Policy

- Cell phones must be turned off and put away during class. If a phone is visible or used without permission, it will be confiscated according to district policy.
- Chromebooks are not allowed. This is a hands-on studio class focused on making, building, and working with physical materials. Exceptions: 3D print week and business mockup work weeks, when digital tools may be used as directed by the teacher.

How do grades work?



Late Work

DIY Design Lab is a hands-on, project-based course where each week introduces a new skill, material, or design challenge. Because the class is structured as a sequential studio experience, lessons are designed to build forward rather than repeat or cycle back.

Late Work Window

Late work projects will be accepted up to **one week past the original due date**. Work submitted within this window will receive full credit as long as it is completed according to expectations of the rubric.

If more than one week has passed since the due date, the original assignment will no longer be accepted for credit. At that point, students will have moved on to a new project or skill focus, and revisiting prior assignments would disrupt the flow of the course. Student will still be able to complete notebook assignment for half credit.



Sequential Learning Policy

This policy reflects how real design studios, workshops, and creative industries operate. Deadlines matter, materials change weekly, and production moves forward.

The goal is to help students:

- Stay engaged with the pace of the class
- Learn to manage time and deadlines in a creative environment
- Avoid falling behind in a course where each week builds new skills
- Focus on continuous making rather than revisiting past stages indefinitely

Students are encouraged to communicate early if they are absent or struggling so they can stay aligned with the current project cycle.



Class Contract

At the beginning of the semester, all students will sign a DIY Design Lab Class Contract. This contract establishes shared expectations for participation, safety, and respect within the classroom. This contract will also be signed by a guardian. The contract is not designed to be punitive, but to create a shared understanding of how a studio-style class functions. Because this is a hands-on elective, the learning environment depends on trust, responsibility, and cooperation. Failure to uphold the class contract may result in changes to seating, project access, or course placement if necessary to maintain a safe and productive environment for all students.

Student Showcase

- Students will have the opportunity to showcase their craft items at the school craft fair. At this event, community members, students, teachers, and family will be able to see what students have accomplished throughout the semester.
- Students may receive a reward or recognition for participating in the school craft fair, which will take place during the final week of the semester. Additionally, students will also have the opportunity to share their work with peers in a showcase held after school on the same day. More details will be provided as the event approaches.

DIY DESIGN LAB CLASS CONTRACT

Student & Guardian Agreement

I understand that DIY Design Lab is a hands-on studio course focused on making, designing, and building. I agree to participate fully in all class activities and respect the materials, tools, and space provided. By signing this contract, I agree to the following:

Participation & Learning

- I will participate in all weekly projects and activities.
- I will complete my design journal and reflections to the best of my ability.
- I will follow instructions and stay engaged during class time.
- I understand that each week builds new skills and I am responsible for keeping up.

Respect for Materials & Space

- I will use all supplies, tools, and equipment responsibly.
- I will not waste, damage, or misuse classroom materials.
- I understand that disrespecting materials may result in removal from the course.

Behavior & Safety

- I will follow all safety rules and teacher directions.
- I will respect the work and space of others.
- I will help maintain a positive and focused studio environment.

Technology Policy

- Cell phones must be turned off and put away during class.
- Chromebooks are not allowed except during approved project weeks.
- I understand that unauthorized use of devices may result in consequences.

Statement of Understanding

I understand that DIY Design Lab is a creative studio environment where learning happens through making. I agree to take responsibility for my work, my actions, and my use of materials in order to support a safe and productive classroom for everyone.

Student Name: _____

Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____