

BioSTEM I

Primary Career Cluster:	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
Course Contact:	CTE.Standards@tn.gov
Course Code(s):	C21H07
Prerequisite(s):	None
Credit:	1
Grade Level:	9
Focus Elective Graduation Requirements:	This course satisfies one of three credits required for an elective focus when taken in conjunction with other <i>BioSTEM</i> courses. In addition, this course satisfies one lab science credit requirement for graduation.
Program of Study (POS) Concentrator:	This course satisfies one out of two required courses that meet the Perkins V concentrator definition, when taken in sequence in the approved program of study.
Programs of Study and Sequence:	This is the first course in the <i>BioSTEM</i> program of study
Aligned Student Organization(s):	SkillsUSA: http://www.skillsusatn.org/ Technology Student Association (TSA): http://www.tntsa.org
Coordinating Work-Based Learning:	Teachers are encouraged to use embedded WBL activities such as informational interviewing, job shadowing, and career mentoring. For information, visit https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/work-based-learning.html .
Promoted Student Industry Credentials:	Credentials are aligned with post-secondary and employment opportunities and with the competencies and skills that students acquire through their selected program of study. For a listing of promoted student industry credentials, visit https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/student-industry-certification.html .
Teacher Endorsement(s):	013, 014, 015, 016, 017, 018, 047, 070, 078, 081, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 157, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 230, 232, 233, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 449, 470, 477, 519, 531, 595, 596, 700, 740, 760, 982
Required Teacher Certifications/Training:	Teachers who have never taught this course must attend training provided by the Department of Education. https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/career-clusters/cte-cluster-stem.html
Teacher Resources:	Best for All Central: https://bestforall.tnedu.gov/

Course at a Glance

There is no one way to create meaningful learning experiences for students. There are best practices available that data and students say impact long-term student learning. One of those best practices is to put student learning in context with their experiences.

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) provide an opportunity for students to display their learning in the classroom and through regional, state, and/or national competition. Work-based Learning (WBL) consists of sustained and coordinated work-based activities that relate to the course content. These activities should occur at every level through a program of study. Below is a listing of possible CTSO connections and WBL activities for this course. This listing is intended to be an idea starter and not a comprehensive listing.

Using a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) in Your Classroom

Putting the classroom learning into real life experiences is often what creates a meaningful learning experience for students, one that lasts beyond the exam and course. CTSOs are a great resource to create this type of learning for your students. They are also a great resource to showcase your students learning through regional, state, and national competitions. Possible connections for this course include the following. This is not an exhaustive list.

- Participate in CTSO Fall Leadership Conference to engage with peers by demonstrating logical thought processes and developing industry specific skills that involve teamwork and project management.
- Participate in contests that highlight job skill demonstration, interviewing skills, community service activities, extemporaneous speaking, and job interview.
- Participate in leadership activities such as National Leadership and Skills Conference, National Week of Service, 21st Century Skills.

For more ideas and information, visit Tennessee SkillsUSA at <http://www.skillsusatn.org/> and Technology Student Association (TSA): <http://www.tntsa.org>.

Using Work-Based Learning (WBL) in Your Classroom

Sustained and coordinated activities that relate to the course content are the key to successful work-based learning. Possible activities for this course include the following. This is not an exhaustive list.

- **Standards 1.1-1.2** | Invite an industry representative to discuss occupations within the BioSTEM career field.
- **Standards 2.1-2.3** | Complete an integrated project on Biotechnology with an industry professional.
- **Standards 3.1-3.2** | Invite a local scientist to discuss scientific foundations.
- **Standards 4.1-4.4** | Do a project to be used by a local industry.
- **Standards 5.1-5.3** | Discuss safety protocols with an OSHA representative.
- **Standards 6.1-6.5** | Have students job shadow at a laboratory.

For more ideas and information, visit <https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/work-based-learning.html>.

Course Description

BioSTEM I is a foundational course in the STEM cluster for students interested in learning more about careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics with emphasis in biotechnology. This course covers basic skills required for BioSTEM fields of study. Upon completion of this course, proficient students are able to identify and explain the steps in both the engineering design and the scientific inquiry process. Students conduct research to develop meaningful questions, define simple problem scenarios and scientific investigations, develop fundamental design solutions, conduct basic mathematical modeling and data analysis, and effectively communicate solutions and scientific explanation to others.

Course Standards

1. STEM Fields Exploration

- 1.1 Biotechnology vs. Biomedicine: Describe **the dynamic interplay** among science, technology, and engineering and math within living, earth-space, and physical systems. Differentiate between the terms **biotechnology and biomedicine** noting the impact that each has had on society. Explore the **history and development** of these scientific fields, as well as the **roles that their associated industries** have played in the areas of agriculture and food, health and medicine, the environment, research, and forensics.
- 1.2 BioSTEM Occupations: Explore several **occupations within BioSTEM fields** such as medical laboratory science, research science, food science, forensic science, and environmental science, and determine how various industries **employ different kinds of data** to meet their needs. Create an infographic to describe **the many sources and types of data** that these occupations use.

2. Perceptions and Future

- 2.1 Ethical Issues: Summarize research from professional journals or websites, textbooks, and/or newspaper articles surrounding an **ethical issue related to biotechnology** (i.e., the use of animals for lab testing, genetically modified organisms, or stem cell use). Debate the chosen topics presenting both sides of the issue. Discuss the **moral, ethical, and legal responsibilities** of researchers, policymakers, and other actors as they pertain to informing the public and ensuring the safety and well-being of affected populations.
- 2.2 Product Development: Develop an original idea for **a new biotechnology product**, and simulate a situation in which the product must be pitched to a prospective client. Create an **informational packet** to share during the presentation that includes the following items: definition and protection of intellectual property, type of patent, copyright issues and rules, trademarks, and breeders' rights for plants or animals.
- 2.3 Biotechnology in Society: Develop an argumentative essay surrounding **public perceptions and attitudes toward the use of biotechnology** in society. Develop claims and counterclaims thoroughly based on facts from research, pointing out the strengths and weaknesses of each claim. Document information using appropriate industry terminology,

including areas such as federal and international regulation and oversight, safety assessment, labeling of products, and impact on the economy.

3. Scientific Foundations

- 3.1 Structural Organization: Review the **structural organization of all living things** at the cellular level. Summarize in an oral, written, or digital presentation how **cellular organization influences scientific approaches** in BioSTEM fields, with specific attention given to the various levels of eukaryotic organisms, cellular molecules, cell growth and reproduction, proteins, and nucleic acids.
- 3.2 Macromolecules: Synthesize information from professional journals and/or websites, textbooks, and news articles to compare and contrast **the structure and properties of the four macromolecules** (carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids). Describe in an informational artifact how the cell membrane structures may be manipulated to allow the passage of these macromolecules in a cell; relate how this knowledge is used by scientists and applied to BioSTEM research.

4. Problem-Resolution Skills

- 4.1 Engineering Design and Scientific Inquiry: Research the terms **engineering design and scientific inquiry**. Compare and contrast the steps of the engineering design process to the steps of the scientific inquiry in a graphic illustration or presentation.
- 4.2 Data: Evaluate a question to determine if it is testable and can **produce empirical data**. Plan an investigation that **outlines the steps of the design process** to collect, record, analyze, and evaluate data. For example:
- Given a set of symptoms, determine whether there is enough data to diagnose a medical condition as would a physician or nurse practitioner. (Science)
 - Determine what information an actuary would need to know in order to answer a research question about which factors (diet, air quality, soil contaminants, sedentary lifestyle etc.) are contributing the most to medical insurance claims in a region. (Mathematics)
- 4.3 Identifying Solutions: Given a real-world problem, **identify** several possible **solutions using both the engineering design process and the scientific inquiry**. For example:
- Research several treatment plans for a severe allergy sufferer as would a biochemist or biophysicist. (Science)
 - Explore commonly used methods to decrease carbon emissions in the environment. (Technology/Mathematics)
- 4.4 Critical Factors of the Design Process: Analyze solutions to a real-world problem collaboratively, to **identify critical factors of the steps of the design process**. Explain why these factors are critical. For example:
- Research types of prosthetics and submit a proposal for which one most effectively uses the design process in terms of feasibility, cost, safety, aesthetics, and durability like a biomedical engineer. (Science)

- b. Research ways a chemical engineer performs tests and monitors performance of processes throughout the stages of production for manufacturing chemicals and products such as gasoline, synthetic rubber, plastics, detergents, cement, paper, and pulp. Submit a proposal for which one most effectively uses the design process in terms of factors like mixing, crushing, heat transfer, distillation, and drying. (Technology/Engineering)

5. Safety

- 5.1 Safety Guidelines: **Review guidelines from governmental agencies** such as the Office of Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines for medical and research laboratories, OSHA guidelines for Standard Precautions and personal protective equipment, Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and storage of reagents and compounds, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) laboratory guidelines. Compare and contrast the **rules and regulations** of each agency to develop **clear expectations** regarding the maintenance of safety in these laboratories.
- 5.2 Safety Manual: Develop a **safety manual for a BioSTEM laboratory**, specifically for a lab **that is involved with processing or developing biomedical products**. Include the following in the manual: safety guidelines, procedures for accident prevention and response, and steps for reporting and documenting hazards. Explain the **industry standards** to maintain aseptic and sterile procedures and luminary flow, as well as the purpose of biosafety cabinets. Draw on the **standard operating procedures** from agencies such as OSHA, EPA, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) when developing the manual.
- 5.3 Safety Equipment: Identify and explain the **intended use of safety equipment** available in the classroom. For example, demonstrate how to properly inspect, use, and maintain safe operating procedures with tools and equipment. Also demonstrate the use of safety glasses, gloves, fire extinguisher, shower and eyewash stations.

6. Laboratory Foundations

- 6.1 BioSTEM Lab: Understand **principles of**, and successfully perform **skills related to the BioSTEM laboratory**. Utilize appropriate tools and technology then document findings using domain specific terminology. Incorporate rubrics from textbooks, CTSO guidelines, or clinical standards of practice for the following:
 - a. correct use of a centrifuge,
 - b. accurate usage of balance or digital scales,
 - c. safe use of an autoclave,
 - d. accurate use of pH meter or strips,
 - e. accurate use of an inoculating loop for agar plate streaking, and
 - f. accurate use and reading of glass or mercury thermometers.
- 6.2 Volume Measuring Devices: Review **the use of volume measuring devices** commonly used by biotechnologists, such as pipettes, micropipettes, and glassware. Prepare solutions and appropriate media, then perform serial dilutions incorporating aseptic techniques.

6.3 Laboratory Terminology: Explain in depth the **terms and phrases often heard in a BioSTEM laboratory** and relate how these terms and practices are important in the safe development of BioSTEM products and services.

- a. Quality assurance
- b. Quality control
- c. Method validation
- d. Appropriate documentation
- e. Good manufacturing practices
- f. Good laboratory practices.

6.4 Record Keeping: Demonstrate the **methods used in basic recordkeeping**. Compare and contrast general methods and explain their design and functionalities including:

- a. laboratory notebooks,
- b. equipment logs,
- c. disposal records, and
- d. quality assurance/control records.

6.5 Qualitative and Quantitative Measures: In teams, **apply qualitative and quantitative measures to analyze data** and draw conclusions that are free of bias. Compare experimental evidence and conclusions with those drawn by others about the same testable question then communicate and defend scientific findings.

Standards Alignment Notes

**References to other standards include:

- P21: Partnership for 21st Century Skills [Framework for 21st Century Learning](#)
 - Note: While not all standards are specifically aligned, teachers will find the framework helpful for setting expectations for student behavior in their classroom and practicing specific career readiness skills.