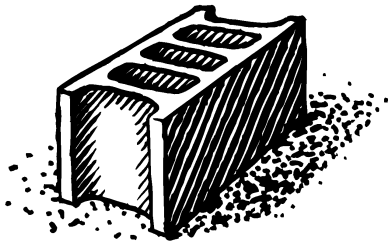

Masonry 1 Honors

Hello, and I hope this finds you doing well at the beginning of this semester. I want to take a moment and introduce myself, and tell you about the Mountaineer Masonry and Construction programs. My name is Eric Sollie, and I am the masonry/construction instructor for Tuscola High School. I worked in construction for 8 years before I started teaching, and am still an owner/partner of Roberts and Sollie Contracting, LLC. I am a Veteran with a background as a military police officer. I believe in the importance of our younger generations learning the time-tested skills involved in the construction trades. Your student will be a part of a program that is centered around hands-on learning, and the development of life skills. I will challenge your students to think with their minds, be a part of a team, use their hands, and work on leadership skills they can use now and after graduation. Parent involvement is crucial to a student's success in education. Please talk to your student about what they are learning and working on in class.

Syllabus: Masonry 1 Honors

For this course students will be given the opportunity to learn about the basics of masonry construction through hands-on learning and classroom instruction. We will be able to go off campus and work on live projects in our community. Grades for my class are not weighted and all assignments count the same toward a 10-point grading scale in accordance with school policy. I provide students the opportunity to be graded on projects, participation, work ethic, responsibility, and written quizzes and exams. This class is counted as an honors class, meaning it is worth 4.5 points toward a student's GPA instead of the traditional 4. Upon successful completion of all modules, including written and performance testing students will earn the National Center for Construction Education and Research industry credential of Masonry Level 1.

PROOF OF LEARNING: Each student will be given the opportunity to earn an NCCER certification which upon completion results in a score of 100 on the final exam and exempts them from having to take the end of course test. If the student is not able to complete the certification process, they will be given an end of course final exam and will receive the grade they score for their final exam grade. Not earning the certification does not affect their grade in any way.

Modules of Instruction:

Introduction to Masonry: Module One (28101) provides information about basic masonry materials, tools, techniques, and safety precautions; explains how to mix mortar by hand and lay masonry units; and describes the skills, attitudes, and abilities of successful masons.

Masonry Safety: Module Two (28107) describes how to identify the common causes of accidents and the hazards associated with masonry tools, equipment, mortar, and concrete. This module also provides information about how to prevent accidents and hazards on the job site by using personal protective equipment, working safely from elevated surfaces, properly using masonry tools and equipment, and handling masonry materials safely.

Masonry Tools and Equipment: Module Three (28102) describes a variety of hand tools, measuring tools, mortar equipment, power tools and equipment, and lifting equipment that masons use on the job, and also explains how to use these tools correctly and safely. The module also provides instructions for assembling and disassembling scaffolds.

Measurement and Math: Module Four (28109) provides a review of the calculation of distances and areas common in masonry work, describes the information found on residential construction drawings, and reviews the role of specifications, standards, and codes.

Mortar: Module Five (28104) explains the types and properties of mortar and the materials used in the mixture, including admixtures; provides instructions for mixing mortar by machine; and describes how to properly apply and store mortar.

Masonry Units and Installation: Module Six (28105) describes characteristics of block and brick; how to set up, lay out, and bond block and brick; how to cut block and brick; how to lay and tool block and brick; and how to clean block and brick once they have been laid. This module also provides information about masonry reinforcements and accessories that masons use on the job to lay block and brick professionally and safely.

Communication Skills: Module Seven(00107) provides trainees with the information and skills needed to communicate effectively and clearly. Developing good communications skills enables the construction professional to become a confident, reliable asset to their craft.

Materials Handling: Module Eight (00109) provides safety guidelines for workers handling materials on the job site. It covers proper procedures and techniques to use when lifting, stacking, transporting, and unloading materials. It also introduces basic motorized and non-motorized material-handling equipment commonly found in the construction environment.

Residential Masonry: Module Nine(28202) describes the construction techniques for residential and small structure foundations, steps, patios, decks, chimneys, and fireplaces and work activities that the mason must perform, as well as those tasks that tie into the masonry work.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns at any time throughout the semester. And thank you for supporting your child's Career and Technical Education at Tuscola High School.

V/R Eric Sollie

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