

sterlthing cooper: school of design curriculum

// open school resources:

- woodshop [basement]
- makerspace [[rutgers](#)]
- workspace [libraries, cafes, public spaces]
- class resources
 - github: <https://github.com/homrThompson>
 - code repository
 - product wiki
 - resource locator (who has tools?)
 - contact
 - email
 - signal (desktop + mobile)
 - phone (emergency only)
 - website: [tba] public-facing
 - social
 - youtube

// student arc (11 weeks (breakneck speed)):

theory (1 week)
 history
 internet diagram (ad tech)
 light theory
 product development
programming (1-2 weeks)
electronics + wiring (1-2 weeks)
prototyping (3-4 weeks)
capstone (2 weeks)

// theory + hard skills (craft):

- software and programming
 - object-oriented
 - functional

- hardware and electronics
 - arduino
 - wiring + soldering
 - electronics
 - resistors
 - switches
- occult sciences
 - color theory
 - light theory
 - star wars
- product design
 - product mgmt
 - woodworking
 - 3D printing
 - technical drawing, prototyping, speccing/scoping
 - tinkercad, autocad
 - project mgmt [epics => stories => tasks]

// curriculum



week 1:

introduce the history of technology, math, time. learn evolution of the computer and the internet. introduce concepts behind product development separate from information technology (packaging design etc.).

- [time](#)
 - when are we in history?
 - time doesn't exist, yet it controls us anyways
 - calendars
 - clocks
- numbers
 - invention of 0 [zero, zilch, zed, nil, null] (628 AD)
 - base 10, base 16, binary

- birth of the computer
 - [ada lovelace](#) (1815–1852) and charles babbage ([analytical engine](#))
 - life and times
 - family
 - occult sciences: mesmerism + numerology
 - [state](#) & [finite state machine](#)
 - analog => digital: parts of computer
 - storage
 - [mechanical calculators](#) [1]
 - [tape storage](#) (VHS/cassette)
 - [disk storage](#)
 - [solid state storage](#)
 - random access memory (RAM)
 - CPU
 - hyperthreading/overclocking
 - multi-core processors
 - GPU
 - modem
- birth of the internet
 - project with contributions from U.S. military + private telecom, bell labs
 - TCP/IP ([internet protocol suite](#))
 - [spacejam.com](#) => google search/ad tech (1998)
=> AI/web3
- product development
 - ideation
 - sketchpad
 - rough measurements
 - apply drawing conventions (architecture?)
 - specs
 - autocad
 - [tinkercad](#)
 - prototype
 - hacker/maker mentality
 - where to source materials
 - product
 - defining specifications
 - end product materials

- mass production
- marketing magic
 - [don draper](#) rant



week 2:

understand interplay between hardware and software.
 receive first components (LEDs, arduino board, wires)
 and purchase core soldering tools (iron, solder, paste,
 etc.). introduce occult concepts and warnings.

- hardware
 - [adafruit](#)
 - who?
 - what?
 - where?
 - [arduino](#)
 - open source (hardware and software)
 - boards
 - programming language (C++ also compatible (bell labs))
 - LEDs, wires, and other components
 - marketplaces
 - adafruit
 - sparkfun
 - amazon.. planet amazon
- software
 - [evolution](#) of programming languages
 - assembly, FORTRAN, COBOL
 - C, SQL
 - C++, java, MATLAB, ada
 - classes, libraries?
 - javascript, ruby, python, haskell
 - internet age: ports, connections
 - web development frameworks
 - scratch, scala, go
 - swift, typescript
 - object-oriented vs. functional
- [occult](#) sciences

- light
 - [intensity]
 - [color]
 - [strobing]
 - light [facts](#)
- color
- sound
- tonics/potions, perfumes, spirits
- cosmic crap (astrology, horoscopes, and other novelties)
- limit time/exposure– dark arts endless mostly not worth knowing



week 3:

introduce python programming language. upload code to arduino board. blink light and set colors. introduce as many components [sensors, I/O, switches potentiometer, etc.] as time allows. use “jumper wires” in lieu of soldered connections

- programming core concepts
 - variables, data types
 - classes
 - loops
- internet tech
 - server/client relation
 - html/css
 - javascript
 - asynchronous/non-blocking code
 - event loop
 - node.js
 - APIs
 - internet-connected (smart) devices
- arduino tech
 - [arduino](#) programming language
 - [libraries](#)

resources:

- [MDN](#) (mozilla developer network)
- [python crash course](#) (google)
- [arduino](#) docs



week 4:

shift focus to adroit skills: soldering, wiring, molding. continue exercising with coding practice to switch gears while working with materials. create working artifact no matter how simple.

- small project using:
 - LEDs
 - wires
 - solder
 - breakout board or arduino board
 - resistor
- safety
 - youtube at least 2 safety videos on each new piece of equipment OR
 - receive first-hand instruction from professional/woodshop
- showcase artifact
 - tinkercad community
 - instagram
 - reddit



weeks 5 – 7 (prototype development):

apply theory/craft learned from first month. schedule time in necessary work spaces.

- planning
 - sketching
 - requirements gathering/speccking

- tinkercad [autodesk](#)
- break out assembly into epics/stories
- proactive about scheduling time at facilities
- work modes
 - team agreement
 - pair programming
 - professional models (google, [spotify](#))
 - version control (source code mgmt): [git](#)
- minimum-viable product (MVP)
 - separate core features from add-ons (push to v2)
 - apply iterative approach/versioning
 - use epics/stories from planning phase



weeks 8 + 9 (product development):

go to market (capstone). produce finalized version of product with detailed instructions on how to reproduce and mass produce.

- use lessons learned in prototyping phase to create finalized product
 - source finer/more durable materials (factor in costs)
 - as close to perfect as possible, don't go nuts
 - plans for grander showcasing.. capstone
- use industry standard for communicating product specifications
 - CNC machine files
 - 3D printer files
- eye towards marketing
 - document any development highlights
 - document product at rest and "functioning"
 - discuss channels for communicating/advertising
 - social
 - etsy marketplace/shopify store
 - ad tags/paid platforms
 - word of mouth, showcasing, exhibitions

