



**Ephrata High School  
Course Syllabus**



**Introduction to Communications Technology  
5850**

*I. Course Description*

The internet, desktop publishing, and digital photography are all buzz words which help describe the communication systems of today. We live in an information/communication-based society. The way in which we communicate our ideas and messages has changed drastically in the past decades and will continue to change in the future. Just as the computer has spurred the current technology revolution, Introduction to Communications Technology will use the computer as the primary design tool and starting point for all facets of the course. The course serves as an introduction for students to a variety of modern communication methods such as the internet, desktop publishing and design, offset printing, digital photography, and web page design. Students will spend the majority of class time involved in the design and production of projects in these areas. There is a \$ 10.00 lab fee for this course.

*II. Materials & Equipment*

- Three-ring binder, sheet protectors, and lab fee (all must be provided by student)
- *Bill Nye: Communications!* video
- Disassembled computers and spare parts
- Computers with Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Dreamweaver
- Scanners
- SLR Film Cameras and film
- Darkroom, Processing Chemicals
- Digital Cameras
- *The Wizard of Photography* video and essay rubric
- Screen Printing Equipment, T-shirts and ink
- *The Secrets of Making Money* video and essay rubric

*III. Course Goals & Objectives*

Introduction to Communications Technology is a course that will give students a basic understanding of our dependence as a society on communication and introduce students to topics that are offered as stand-alone courses at Ephrata High School.

*IV. Course Topics (Summary Outline)*

- I. Desktop Publishing
  - A. *Bill Nye – Communications!*

- B. Computer parts and functions
- C. Adobe InDesign program
- D. Advertising principles
- II. Photography
  - A. History
  - B. Camera operation
  - C. Darkroom processes
  - D. Scanning
  - E. Adobe Photoshop
- III. Printing
  - A. History
  - B. *The Secrets of Making Money*
  - C. Single color T-shirt screen printing
- IV. Website Design
  - A. *Internet history*
  - B. *HTML programming language*
  - C. *Adobe Dreamweaver*

#### *V. Assignments & Grading*

- Portfolio creation with grading at the completion of each section
- Unit test of each section covering all notes and activities
- Project evaluations