Put the "T" in Your
STEM Education Program

Cisco | Networking Academy®
Mind Wide Open™

Technology Studies for the "T", and More.

Many in the United States are concerned about the ability of our future workforce to meet the challenges of global economic competition. Low test scores in math and science, graduates without career-ready skills, and fewer students choosing degrees in STEM subjects have caused government, foundation, and business organizations to act. Pressure is increasing for schools to offer more rigorous studies in science, technology, engineering, and math – STEM Education.

To help schools meet these new expectations, Cisco Networking Academy provides comprehensive coursework to teach the "T" in STEM Education, the technology skills that are in such high demand in businesses today.

In addition, Networking Academy supports a broad range of STEM Education goals, including increased student engagement, better 21st century career skills, and enhanced teacher expertise.

By implementing Networking Academy, you will also:
· Choose a cost-effective, comprehensive program with proven success
· Improve student-academic and career outcomes
· Fulfill demands of your business community

Technology Studies for Career- and College-Ready Students

STEM Education initiatives challenge schools to better educate and prepare students for the scientific and technological careers necessary for economic development and global competitiveness.

Networking Academy fulfills expectations to significantly enhance opportunities for students to engage in technology studies. Students learn basic to advanced information communications technology (ICT) and networking skills, and build important system and process thinking skills.

For career-ready students, this means preparation for globally recognized certification exams that qualify them for high-demand, high-wage jobs. Coursework covers all STEM Cluster Topics, and teaches many of the reading and writing Common Core Standards for technical subjects.

College-ready students strengthen their understanding of technology as well as math, science and engineering concepts, improving success in their advanced studies and careers.

Applied Learning of Technology, Science, Math, and Engineering

Successful STEM Education should improve U.S. standings on math and science tests and increase the number of graduates who have sophisticated technology, science, math, and engineering skills.

Within the focus on learning technology skills, Networking Academy curriculum reviews and applies important science, math, and engineering thinking skills and concepts. Knowledge in these areas of study is reinforced in a real-world context, thus building a more solid foundation for all future STEM studies.

21st Century STEM Career Skills

"A STEM-literate student needs to be experienced in problem-solving, analytical, and communication skills." From Promoting STEM Education:

A Communications Toolkit by National Governors Association Center for Best Practices. www.nga.org/center.

Integrated throughout Networking Academy curriculum are opportunities for students to learn and practice the thinking skills that are essential for becoming innovative technologists, mathematicians, scientists, and engineers. These include:

· Information handling
· Problem-solving and analysis
· Reflection and creativity
· Intellectual curiosity

Students in Networking Academy are also prepared to be more effective in the 21st century workforce. They become better communicators, collaborators, team workers, decision-makers, and negotiators.

Student Engagement in STEM Studies

STEM Education initiatives highlight the need to increase student engagement in STEM subjects to encourage more students to choose STEM careers.

The instructional approach in Networking Academy fosters engagement for all students. Working with real-world content and hands-on labs makes the practice of technology skills relevant to students. Varied teaching materials and activities including online instruction, project-based tasks, videos, games, simulations, and social networking keep students interested. Cisco also organizes national student competitions that motivate students and build confidence.

Networking Academy builds a foundation for success in more than four hundred and thirty STEM careers. For a list of these STEM Career Pathways and other careers, go to www.cisco.com/go/netacad/us

More Highly Qualified STEM Teachers

STEM Education initiatives emphasize the need to increase the number and skill level of highly qualified educators to support a long-term STEM Education solution.

From initial professional development through ongoing support for teaching and technical growth, educators get the knowledge they need to successfully teach technology skills. Always available, the global teacher community provides shared resources and best practices.

Learn More

For more information on this comprehensive, cost-effective program from Networking Academy, visit us at www.cisco.com/go/netacad/us. Read impact stories, complete the request form or send us an email.

Take advantage of new STEM funding opportunities.

To support STEM Education programs, new funding sources from business, foundation, and government are now available and are expected to expand. Find the latest funding opportunities on our web page.

To support successful grant applications, Networking Academy satisfies common requirements including proven track record, integrated assessment, measurable outcomes, proof of scalability, professional development and alignment to local community needs.

More about STEM Education initiatives.

· Innovation America: Building a STEM Agenda, www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0702innovationSTEM.pdf

· Change the Equation, www.changetheequation.org

· Report of the Academic Competitiveness Council, www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/competitiveness/acc-mathscience/index.html

· Prepare and Inspire: K-12 Education in STEM for America's Future, President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ostp