

# Survey of Wood Technology

## Course Information

- Semester and Year: Spring 2026
- Course ID and Section number: CT-21A-E9931
- Instructor's name: Leonard Bechler
- Day and time of required meetings: 9:20 am – 5:10 pm
- Location: AT109
- Number of proctored exams: none
- Course units: 3.00

## Instructor Contact Information

- Office location or Online: AT109
- Office hours: Monday 9:00 – 11:00 am
- Phone number: none
- Email address: leonard-bechler@redwoods.edu

## Required Materials:

- Textbook: "Woodworking" 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Author: Nancy Macdonald ISBN: 978-1-133-94963-3
- Safety glasses, measuring tape, notebook, pencils

## Catalog Description

### Catalog Description

- An introductory woodworking course with lectures and labs. Students will receive instruction in project planning, wood technology, wood finishing, woodworking related literature and the safe use and operation of hand and power woodworking tools. Project work includes assigned and free-choice projects. This course is required for all Construction Technology degrees and certificates at College of the Redwoods.

## Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Wood lab organization and safety practices
- Lumber and plywood processing.
- Hand tool manipulation.
- Power tool setup and operation.

- Wood joinery.
- Wear and use personal protective equipment.
- Dimension, shape and assemble wooden parts to a high degree of accuracy.
- Attention to detail, fit, finish and quality of work.
- Teamwork and mutual regard for classmates
- Flatten, grind, hone and polish hand tools to keep them sharp.

## Course Calendar

- **List of important Dates:** this information is also included in the various attachments but here they are in one place:
  - 01/16 - Last day to register for classes
  - 01/17 – semester begins\*
  - 01/19 –MLK Day – Campus Closed
  - 01/23 – last day to add students to your classes\*
  - 02/01 – last day to drop students without a W grade\*
  - **02/02 – CENSUS DAY\***
  - 02/09 – census rosters are due\*
  - 02/ 13 – Lincoln’s Birthday
  - 02/16 – President’s Day
  - 03/05 – last day to petition to graduate with a spring graduation date
  - 04/03 – last day for student/faculty withdrawal
  - 03/16 – 03/20 – Spring Break – no classes
  - 03/31 – Cesar Chavez Day
  - 05/09 – 05/15 – final exams
  - 05/15 - Last day to file P/NP
  - 05/15 – semester ends
  - 05/22 – **GRADES DUE – NO Exceptions**
  -

***\*- Does NOT pertain to late start, noncredit classes, or positive attendance classes.***

## Evaluation and Grading Policy

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. Manipulative Assignments

There are six manipulative assignments and one project planning assignment that you will be asked to complete prior to building a project of your own. The assignments are designed to be building blocks toward a better understanding of the woodworking procedures that we would like you to follow and use on future projects at College of the Redwoods. You will be given a lecture and a demonstration on

each assignment before starting it. You will be given a step by step plan of procedure to assist you in the completion of each project. Manipulative assignments have no deadline and may be repeated any time to improve your score. It is recommended that you complete each project in a timely manner so as to maintain pace with the class schedule.

## **2. Free Choice or Assigned Projects**

It's never too soon to begin planning your free choice project. When time permits between lab assignments, you should be working on the planning of your free-choice project. After completing the first six manipulative assignments and the planning assignment you will be allowed to continue on your free choice project for the remainder of the semester.

Homework for this course will consist of textbook reading assignments and written workbook questions. The questions will be available via Canvas. Reading ahead of time is an excellent way to gain background knowledge prior to each week's lecture. In addition to reading assignments, each student will be required to share a periodical review with the class.

## **3. Clean Up**

Everyone is expected to clean up after themselves. Please spend 15 minutes each class helping to keep the shop clean and orderly. This is a safety issue that all students need to be involved in.

## **4. Work Habits**

Developing good work habits is one objective of all vocational classes. Just as you would at a job, arrive to class on time, and ready to work. Work together with your classmates, develop a safety attitude and put in a good effort each time you attend class. Note: Please "check-out" with your instructor before you leave.

## **5. Tests and Homework**

Each student is required to attend a safety lectures and complete safety tests prior to using any tools or machinery in the C.R. woodshop. Additionally, students are expected to complete homework assignments from the text workbook.

Research requirements will include written and oral reports on relevant woodworking periodicals. Written assignments may be submitted via the Canvas LMS. All project and assignment deadlines will be clearly displayed on Canvas.

## **6. Final Assessment: Final Exam: Friday May 15, 10:00 - 12:00 pm**

Students in all classes are expected to attend and participate in the final assessment at the end of the semester. This includes a project review and written final. Prior arrangements must be made with the instructor if for any reason you are unable to attend the final. Non-emergency excuse for absence on final day results in loss of one full course grade

Grading/Evaluation: Grades are part of the teaching and learning process. Keep in mind that you earn grades; I do not “give” them to you. I will assess your work according to how well it meets class objectives, fulfills requirements, meets the assignment rubric, and reflects the academic skills expected of college students. It is your responsibility to understand why you have achieved a certain grade and what steps you can take to maintain or improve your grade. Please feel free to consult with me using email or office visits. However, I will ask that, prior to speaking with me about your grade, you wait at least one day so you may carefully review the assignment and the grading rubric in order to clearly present your concerns to me. Course Assessment: Student success in CT- 21A will be assessed in the following areas:

| <u>Grading Criteria</u>     | <u>Available Points</u> |                          |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Manipulative Assignments | = 400                   | 100% - 93% = A Excellent |
| 2. Participation            | = 300                   | 92% - 90%= A-            |
| Clean up(100)               |                         | 89% - 87% = B+           |
| Work Habits(200)            |                         | 86% - 83% = B            |
| 4. Homework                 | = 150                   | 82% - 80% = B-           |
| 5. Tests, Quizzes, Report   | = 100                   | 79% - 77% = C+           |
| 6. Final Assessment         | = 50                    | 76% - 70%=C              |
|                             |                         | 69% - 66% = D            |
| <hr/>                       |                         |                          |
| Total                       | 1000                    | < 59% = Fail             |

## **Prerequisites/corequisites/ recommended preparation**

There are no prerequisite requirements for this class. It is open to anyone interested in woodworking. Lack of experience should not dissuade or discourage you. I will gladly work with individuals of any skill level.

All students wishing to take CR woodworking classes, regardless of prior experience, are required to start with CT-21A. This ensures that you become familiar with the safety practices of the CR woodshop and learn the proper operation of its power equipment as well as the location and organization methods used for the countless small wood tools that are available.

If you have prior experience I will gladly accommodate your skill and allow you to progress at a faster rate than the rest of your peers.

## **Educational Accessibility and Support**

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students

who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, or bipolar disorder
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the [LIGHT Center](#), counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g., audio books, braille, E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Student Accessibility Support Services \(SASS\)](#). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact Student Accessibility Support Services (SASS) for a consultation: [sass@redwoods.edu](mailto:sass@redwoods.edu).

## SASS office locations and phone numbers

### Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280
- Location: Learning Resource Center (Library)

### Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: main building, near the Library

### Klamath-Trinity campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280