Start with WHY?

“The aim in modern education is to train the individual for usefulness. With the present crowded curricula in schools and colleges it is essential that the material presented for the training of students be selected with the greatest care”

- David Bergey 1916
Why STEM?

STEM college majors tend to earn more than non-STEM college majors

Median annual earnings of full-time, year-round workers age 25 and older with at least a bachelor’s degree

Among those with a...

- **STEM college degree**
  - All employed: $81,011
  - STEM jobs: $87,187
  - Non-STEM jobs: $70,885

- **Non-STEM college degree**
  - All employed: $60,828
  - STEM jobs: $75,948
  - Non-STEM jobs: $60,000

Note: Based on adults ages 25 and older employed full-time year-round with positive earnings who have completed a bachelor’s degree. College degree refers to the major field of study of the bachelor’s degree. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of 2014-2016 American Community Survey (IPUMS). "Women and Men in STEM Often at Odds Over Workplace Equity"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
Because STEM education makes a difference

**STEM workers tend to earn more than similarly educated non-STEM workers**

Median annual earnings of full-time, year-round workers ages 25 and older with positive earnings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>STEM Jobs</th>
<th>Non-STEM jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school or less</td>
<td>$45,569</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td>$54,745</td>
<td>$40,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$75,948</td>
<td>$55,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s degree</td>
<td>$81,137</td>
<td>$67,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/doctoral degree</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>$91,242</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Figures based on 2016 dollars. Some college includes those with an associate degree and those who attended college but did not obtain a degree. Professional degree includes those with a M.D., D.D.S., D.V.M., LL.B., or J.D. Doctoral degree includes those with a Ph.D. or Ed.D. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.


PEW RESEARCH CENTER
Amy White

Dean, School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
B.S. Biology

M.S. Microbiology and Immunology
Virginia Tech
B.S. Forestry and Wildlife

Penn State
M.S. Forest Resources
Wilderness recreation mgmt., environmental consulting, forest land mgmt...
Programs

• Science
  • Health Science
  • Integrated Environmental Science
  • Biotechnology
A New Program!

- AS Science in Agriculture
Programs

• Information Technology and Computer Science
• Engineering
• Mechatronics

• The Regional Academy
What do these programs have in common?

- Hands On Learning!
  - Lab based
  - Experiential Learning Opportunities
  - Inquiry based experiences
At VWCC.....
Opening Fall 2019!
Science and technology revolutionize our lives, but memory, tradition and myth frame our response. - Arthur Schlesinger (Historian)