



**Indiana
Department of Education**

Glenda Ritz, NBCT
Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Jenny Berry, Director, College and Career Readiness
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DATE: August 1, 2016

SUBJECT: Changes to 2016-17 Approved Course Titles and Descriptions

To assure that Indiana provides students with the most current offerings to prepare for college and careers, the Department of Education annually updates and distributes the course titles and descriptions for the following school year. Changes for 2016-17 were presented at the November 2015 State Board meeting. Since that time, additional changes have been identified, as follows.

Additional changes to Indiana's state approved courses

The following changes in state approved course titles will expand the offerings available to schools, increase flexibility, facilitate alignment and sequencing of general/liberal arts courses and Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses, increase accuracy of enrollment reports, and continue development and implementation of Indiana's College and Career Pathways.

Workplace Spanish

- *Workplace Spanish* will be created as specified in [House Enrolled Act 1209 \(2016\)](#) to meet the criteria set forth in Indiana Code IC 20-32-4-12 by the 2017-18 school year. Approving the course title now will enable schools to begin planning for implementation in 2017-18.

Math 10

- *Math 10* is a new two-semester course designed to reinforce and elevate the algebra and geometry knowledge and skills necessary for students to successfully complete high school mathematics courses beyond Algebra 1 and essential for passing the state's graduation qualifying exam in mathematics. Enrollment will be contingent upon recommendation of the Algebra I or Integrated Math I teacher based on diagnostic results of performance in Algebra I and/or mathematics competency assessments. The content of this course is aligned to the 2014 Indiana Academic Standards for mathematics. Emphasis is on a variety of instructional methods designed to meet each student's needs and delivered through competency-based units with frequent pre and post assessment data analyzed to drive instructional design and delivery. Approving the course title now will enable schools to begin planning for implementation in 2017-18.

Environmental Sustainability

- *Environmental Sustainability* will replace the title Biotechnical Engineering. PLTW has replaced their Biotechnical Engineering curriculum with the Environmental Sustainability program to better reflect the focus on investigating and designing solutions in response to real-world challenges related to sustaining the environment.

Robotics Design and Innovation

- *Robotics Design and Innovation* is a new Engineering and Technology course. Students will apply mechanics, pneumatics, control technologies, computer fundamentals, and programmable control technologies concepts to innovative technological designs related to robotic systems. Students will design, build, program, test and optimize robots to perform a variety of predesignated tasks. Individuals or small teams may participate in organized robotic competitions or develop their own events during the course. Through this course, students will investigate exciting career and collegiate programs of study.