

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY **IPRO 333**

Creating Design-to-Prototype Learning Modules at the Museum of Science and Industry

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Interprofessional Project 333: The Fabrication Laboritory

MUSEUM

SCIENCE

INDUSTRY

The main focus of IPRO 333 is to further establish the existence of the Fab Lab. The Museum of Science and Industry houses the only Fab Lab in the Chicagoland area, and is 1 of only 12 in the United States. However, the idea of a Fab Lab is gaining popularity throughout the world. The Fab Lab will be a new educational source for students of nearly any age.

In establishing the MSI Fab Lab, a selection of students from IPRO 333 travelled to Massachusetts. The concept for the Fab Lab originated at MIT as it grew out of the popular class MAS 863 "How To Make (Almost) Anything." During this visit to the MIT Fab Lab, IPRO 333 was able to learn how a Fab Lab works and communicates both locally as well as throughout the network of the 34 Fab Labs that exist worldwide.

Using knowledge from the MIT precedent, IPRO 333 has opened the MSI Fab Lab to the public on several occasions. Student field trips, planned teacher education seminars, and open access sessions are events that IPRO 333 has implemented within the Fab Lab in addition to the existing Science Achievers events.



CNC Milling









Fab Lab Workstations

Laser Cutter





In doing this, IPRO 333 has gained experience in working with a variety of different potential users as well as ideas of specific events and activities geared toward each audience.

Created Projects

CNC Machine