

Galipatian Station

WHILE YOU PEE IN LEE

Friday, November 17th – Friday, November 27th 2017

COMPILER



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Mechanical Engineering
Sophomore

Design Teams



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What are design teams?

Design teams are student organizations that work to provide a solution for an engineering problem and will often take their designs to competitions. Design teams vary widely in size and composition with anywhere from 4 to over 50 members from multiple engineering majors.

Why should you join?

Design teams are incredible opportunities for you to gain hands-on experience and apply classroom knowledge to a major design project. With most design teams being highly interdisciplinary, they also serve as an opportunity to help you narrow your choice of major or pick a concentration within your major. Recruiters will also look for design team experience when screening applicants, making them a valuable addition to your resume.

Who should join?

Everyone should join a design team! They are incredible experiences to grow your network and will open the door for countless opportunities in

the future. Many design teams are recruiting freshmen to join their projects. Just remember that enthusiasm, dedication and willingness to learn are just as important as technical skills for design teams.

Where to find design team?

Design teams will often have booths at events such as the CEED O-Show, Gobblerfest and many outreach events such as Virginia Tech Science Fair, Freshmen Major Mixer and Kid's Tech University. The Ware Lab houses a dozen undergraduate design teams (Steel Bridge, Astrobotics, Concrete Canoe, SailBOT, Baja, BOLT, DBF, Formula, HPS, HEVT, SAE Aero and Hyperloop) as well as machine shop and welding shop. Lee Hall also houses two design teams, Team Astra, participating in this NASA Micro-g NExT competition, and inVenTs High Powered Rocketry.



Winter is Coming



Elliot Kunkel **Chemical Engineering** **Sophomore**

Blacksburg weather is unpredictable but December in Blacksburg is significantly colder than November. On average expect 10 degrees colder. From usclimatedata.com, we

have the average high in December being 44 degrees and the average low being a brisk 24 degrees. Here are some of the essentials you need for the cold wet Blacksburg weather.

Some gloves: If your crossing the drill field for your 8am with 40mph winds, your fingers will fall off. The wind cuts through pockets like butter so it's best to wear gloves to reduce the risk of losing fingers.

A hat: Your ears and your head are unsurprisingly, very important parts of the body. Leaving your ears too long in the freezing Blacksburg weather can cause frostbite and lots of pain when going into

warm classrooms. Also, one can lose up to 70% of their body heat if their head is not covered.

A scarf: Scarfs are a very important part of keeping warm, It not only can keep your neck warm but you can wrap it around the lower half of your head and keep your nose warm. Rudolf is the only red nose reindeer obviously because he doesn't wear a scarf.

Here's some benefits of winter, although Blacksburg is mainly a wet cold winter, on average it gets 5 inches of snow and if you wake up early in the morning and see campus when no one has walked in the fresh snow it's quite beautiful. Also, everyday turns into a day for hot cider or hot coco. Unfortunately for us engineers, it's probably going to be hot coffee while studying for our exams! Good luck braving the cold and your exams!



Insert snow meme here

The Origins of Christmas



Owen Connor Andre **Aerospace Engineering** **Sophomore**

Christmas is one of the most popular holidays of the year. Christians around the world celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ in a yearly holiday taking place on December

25th. Common celebrations include giving gifts, having a family meal, and decorating a Christmas Tree. The holiday has been celebrated this way for about two millennia, but the holiday has origins dating before this time.

The Church decided to create a holiday to celebrate the birth of Christ to accompany the holiday of Easter. The only issue was that the bible itself never states when he was actually born. In fact, many believe his actual birth occurred sometime in the spring. So why would this celebration occur in December? Pope Julius I may have chosen this date as a way to integrate the Roman holiday of Saturna-

lia, as well as other festivals occurring around the winter solstice, into the Christian religion.

Saturnalia was a month long Roman holiday occurring around the winter solstice every year. It celebrated the Roman god Saturn and featured a lot of food and the turning upside down of the Roman class system. Other festivals occurring around this time were Juvenalia, a feast for the Children of Rome, and the birthday of the Roman god Mithra. The festival celebrating the birthday of Mithra took place on December 25.

Christmas spread relatively quickly and eventually replaced the pagan holidays. Despite this, it maintained the spirit of the festivals it replaced, with revelers attending church in the morning and then attending large festivals afterwards. The holiday did not become family centered until the 19th century in the United States. Many credit this change to the writer Washington Irving, who described this style of Christmas in his work *The Sketchbook of Geoffrey Crayon, gent.* Charles Dickens also helped this change with his work *A Christmas Carol* which established many of the current traditions.