Steps to Integrate Academics into a Global CTE Project

Global projects provide an excellent way to integrate academics such as math, science, and language arts into CTE curriculum. Achieving aligned and integrated curriculum standards is one of the elements of ACTE’s high-quality CTE framework and assists in your program evolution and improvement. Utilize the following steps to integrate academics into global CTE projects.

- **Step 1** – Identify the Academic Skills Related to the Global CTE Project.
  - Align academic standards to your CTE-based global project, not the project to academics.
  - Design real world/engaging context and authentic problems to solve.
  - Download the academic integration template to aid in your planning.

- **Step 2** – Develop a Community of Practice.
  - Regularly meet with individuals about global connections, STEM, CTE, and academic integration of these concepts.

- **Step 3** – Address academics in CTE as critical workplace skills.
  - Introduce and reinforce academics such as math, science, and language arts, as “tools” to use in the global workplace through example problems the students will need to solve to successfully complete the project and master the CTE competency.

- **Step 4** – Reinforce academic concepts throughout the CTE curriculum.
  - Integrate and reinforce as much academic content as possible in the CTE curricula throughout the year.
  - Build on students’ prior academic knowledge and skills.
  - Capitalize on teachable moments that follow the academically enhanced lessons.
  - Identifying academic concepts by name and reinforce that label to help students identify the skill they possess.

- **Step 5** – Be a leader, expand beyond your subject area.
  - Identify the math/science/language arts concepts in your CTE curricula.
  - Learn math/science/language arts.
  - Practice teaching the math/science/language arts in your curricula.

What are additional ways to connect a Global project to academics? Find out by taking Module 10: Integrating Academics into Global STEM Projects, a short 15-minute online professional development module that is part of the Career Readiness in a Global Economy: STEM and CTE program.

** Portions of the above material are adapted from: NRCCTE (National Research Center for Career and Technical Education) Core Principles for the Math-in-CTE Model