EDGERTON CENTER

The Edgerton Center (http://edgerton.mit.edu) offers a wide variety of subjects for both undergraduate and graduate students, and provides resources and opportunities for students to pursue hands-on projects, UROPs, and other activities.

Named for Professor Harold "Doc" Edgerton, whose high-speed photography legacy (http://edgerton-digital-collections.org) lives on with the Strobe Alley exhibition of Edgerton’s photographs, the center can provide students with a workplace, a place to test equipment, access to the Student Machine Shop, as well as advice and encouragement. The 4-402 classroom and Strobe Lab are located in Strobe Alley on the fourth floor of Building 4, as is the Student Project Lab (4-409) (http://edgerton.mit.edu/student_project_lab). 4-409 lab is equipped with hand tools, a sewing machine, soldering tools, electronics prototyping tools, and basic test equipment. For more information on using these facilities, contact Jim Bales (https://edgerton.mit.edu/about/staff/james-w-bales) (Strobe), Amy Fitzgerald (https://edgerton.mit.edu/about/staff/amy-fitzgerald) (4-402 classroom), or Justin Schmidt (https://edgerton.mit.edu/about/staff/justin-schmidt) (4-409).

Subjects offered (http://edgerton.mit.edu/academics) include introductory electronics, digital photography, and classes in international development (D-Lab classes). In addition, Doc Edgerton’s Strobe Project Laboratory 6.163 is taught each term by Associate Director Jim Bales.

The Edgerton Student Shop in 6C-006 (http://edgerton.mit.edu/student-shops/edgerton-student-shop) offers regular training sessions in the use of CNC mills, lathes, a 3-D printer, and more. The Area 51 CNC Machine Shop (http://edgerton.mit.edu/student-shops/area-51-cnc-shop) is located on the first floor of N51. The first floor fabrication facility—with CNC milling and lathe machines, an injection molding machine, a thermal forming machine, and a water-jet cutting machine—is available to students on clubs and teams, D-Lab (http://d-lab.mit.edu), and to the students, faculty, and staff of the International Design Center. The third floor space, the Milk Drop Shop, is used by clubs and teams for small-scale project work. Both Area 51 and 4-409 are MakerLodges (https://make.mit.edu/makerlodge), part of Project Manus (http://project-manus.mit.edu).

The center supports 17 student clubs and teams including the Solar Electric Vehicle Team, the Driverless team, Motorsports, and more. We provide teams with a space to work, machining equipment, some funding, administrative support, and advising. Students interested in proposing a new team can fill out an application form (https://edgerton.mit.edu/club-team-application) or email Chris Mayer (https://edgerton.mit.edu/about/staff/christopher-mayer).

The Edgerton Center K–12 Outreach Program (http://edgerton.mit.edu/k-12) gives MIT students an on-campus opportunity to teach engineering and science to 4th through 8th graders from area schools. Topics include mechanical engineering, circuits, optics, biology, and more. Contact Amy Fitzgerald (amyfitz@mit.edu) or call 617-253-7931 to become involved.