STEM AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

Blake Acree
Mechanical Engineering

WEST TENNESSEE
STEM HUB

How did you select your college major? What was the biggest influence?

I have always been fascinated with the subjects of science and how things work. I got big into podcasting as an adult and started catching more content from my generation's idol, Bill Nye (also an engineer). When I decided to go back to college to get a degree, it seemed that engineering was the logical path for me.

What advice would you share with K-12 students who are considering your major?

Engineering is a difficult major but also a fun one. We get to do labs, test theories, and design our own machines for competition. We really feel like a big family and support each other when things get hard.

What high school elective course do you wish you had taken to better prepare you for college?

After dropping out of architecture and returning to school to do engineering, I just with I had taken my ACT suggestion of 'engineering as a top career choice' more seriously.

When you aren't in class or studying, what can you be found doing in your spare time?

Outside of class, I design and test microfluidic droplet generation chips for our bioengineering lab. I am also a big gear head and spend too much time and money on fixing old trucks.

What motivates you to get out of bed and go to class every day?

I really love this major. I may not feel that each day I get up, but it challenges me. I learn new things every day and I love that.

How do you or your major make a positive impact on society/our community?

I see engineering as making the world a better place every day though technology.

What do you look forward to the most while being a STEM Ambassador?

I love getting students excited about topics that I am excited about!