



video transcript

chevron fab lab permian basin at odessa college

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Copy: Odessa College, Permian Basin Region, Texas

Valerie Jones, Vice President, Instruction Odessa College: Odessa College has been proudly serving the workforce development needs in this community for over 70 years, but the technology, the economy, needs to have a more highly trained workforce.

Valerie Jones: The new partnership with Chevron to create a Fab Lab housed on our campus adds an entirely new layer of what they need to be competitive in the workforce of tomorrow.

Cedric Bleimling, Director, Fab Lab Permian Basin: We have an environment where they can test theories and quickly figure out if they work or not.

Valerie Jones: Students are able to start from the design and follow that all the way through to prototype.

Cedric Bleimling: But also, they have to work with other students from different fields. It allows us to have all of them work on a single project.

Valerie Jones: That's what it's like in the real world, that's what we have to prepare students for.

Dominick Gasson, Age 20, Odessa College Student: What we're doing today with LEDs and Arduino seems really simple, but it really translates to the real world because we're able to transfer that into our jobs.

Autumn Sandoval, Age 21, Odessa College Student: I feel like I'll be more prepared for those high tech careers that come to our area.

Elsie Palomares, Age 21, Odessa College Student: Computers seemed like something that wasn't for me. And it wasn't until I started coming to the Fab Lab – that's when I realized that I can definitely do this.

Valerie Jones: Science, technology, engineering, and math, every single kid should believe, "that's for me." Then those kids can transform their communities.