

An Introduction to Earth Science

Teacher: Mr. Kahn

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Course Outline:

This course is not a science- it is many sciences under one heading. Earth science includes: Geology, Oceanography, Paleontology, Meteorology and Astronomy just to name a few. The focus of this course will be application skills related to real-world situations. Each student will gain a better understanding of the physical systems around them and how these systems work and interact.

Materials Needed:

Notebook (three-ring binder preferred), loose-leaf paper, scientific calculator, pen and pencil.

Notes, Homework, Quizzes and Tests:

Because this course has so much detail included within it, you must take detailed and neat notes. To ensure success in Earth Science you will be required to work an average of 15-30 minutes outside of class most days. Written homework will be assigned two to three times a week. Homework is to be done neatly (I am sorry but I cannot read hieroglyphics or chicken scratch). Homework will be graded and will count as part of your class average. There will be at approximately three quizzes every quarter. The quizzes will be announced unless I feel that there is a lack of preparation then I reserve the right to give a pop quiz. The quizzes will be short and should only take about 10-15 minutes to complete. There will also be 3-4 unit tests per 10-week marking period. Unit tests will be announced 3-5 school days in advance. I suggest that you use a three-ring binder for this class because you will be receiving useful handouts in this class. It would be wise for you to keep them in an orderly fashion so they can be quickly found.

All work is due at the beginning of class on the due date. I am not interested in excuses such as "I was too busy last night." Late work will lose 10 points per day for the first three days and then will be worth zero points. **Note:** It is the responsibility of the student to complete any work that they have missed during an absence. It is a good idea to see me after class when you return.

Attendance and Absences:

A student's attendance in school is very important. Learning is an everyday process. If a student misses a day of class, they miss all of the material covered that day. Often a student's success, or lack thereof, can be attributed to their attendance. I realize that people do become ill and are involved in other activities. We are all human but missing classes without a valid excuse is **not** acceptable. Students will receive weekly participation grades, which will be greatly affected by attendance.

Classroom Behavioral Expectations:

All school rules are specified in the student handbook and will be enforced during class. I expect mutual respect between teacher and student as well as among students themselves. Here is a list of some of the most important rules to follow:

1. Students must be in their assigned seats at the beginning bell. If late, quietly leave a pass on the teacher’s desk and be seated.
2. Students will be considered unprepared if without notebooks, text, pen, pencil, assigned work or other necessary supplies.
3. Safety regulations are to be observed at all times. No equipment or materials are to be touched without the direction of the teacher.
4. Respect and attention will be given to an acknowledged speaker in the class.

I will go to great lengths to ensure that a healthy learning environment is maintained throughout the year.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism (cheating) is the unattributed use of the work of someone else. It could occur by copying someone’s homework and presenting it as your own, by copying someone’s test answers or bringing materials with you to any test or quiz and copying them. Such actions are unethical and will result in immediate, serious consequences. If you do not understand something please ask! That is what I am here for.

Grading Policy:

My grading policy is straightforward. The student’s grade will be weighed according to the following scale:

- Homework/ Notebook.....35%**
- Lab Exercises/Projects..... 30%**
- Quizzes / Tests.....25%**
- Participation.....10%**

I keep all grades in my grade book and on the computer. Students are welcome to check their grades at any time during my planning period, after class or after school. Grades will not be discussed or given during instruction.

Extra Help:

I am available for extra help any day during my lunch period and Tues.-Thurs. I will be after school as available. I can also be available other times by appointment (i.e. before school). I will give any student the extra help that they need to be successful, after all your success is my success and your failure is my failure.

Please sign and return:

I have read the above and understand the requirements in applied chemistry.

Students signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____