

Earth Science Syllabus

Course Introduction and Requirements 2015-16



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COURSE CONTENT AND GOAL: This introductory course of Earth Science is a practical study of the Earth, its features, its forces and its place in space. It is an exciting science with many interesting and practical applications. Earth Science students will work to gain a better understanding of our planet's history, future, energy, and its resource base that supports society. We will also study the geological hazards that impact a growing population, a changing climate, and the challenges of sustainability.

TEXTBOOK: Modern Earth Science by Holt, Rinehart and Winston; McDougal Publishing Company.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- **Syllabus:** returned signed by student & parent/guardian
- **Composition Notebook & Index Cards:** for Notes & Labs (spiral notebooks not recommend)
- **Writing Utensils:** pencils are preferred for calculations
- **Scientific Calculator:** must have LOG key, (recommended TI-30X or similar)
- **NOTE:** Cell Phone's, and other digital devices are not to be used or visible in class.

GRADING POLICY: There will typically be weekly lecture notes, class work, and starters. Quizzes will generally be bi-weekly with one test per unit. Labs and Current Science Articles will also be assigned. These assignments will require the student to use lab data, newspapers, internet, or other resources outside of class time to do research and document it scientifically. Homework will be given weekly and will be due within 7 days. If a student is going to be absent on an assignment due date, prior arrangements should be made. Any late work turned in within one week of due date will count for half credit; after one week it will count as zero.

Grading Scale: 100-90% = A 89-80% = B 79-70% = C 69-60% = D Below 60% = F

Grades are calculated by a total point method and then converted into percent. Student progress can be checked on Aeries and will also be given out during the triad.

Assignment Type	% of Final Grade
Homework and Classwork	25%
Notebook and Starters	15%
Test, Quizzes & Final Exams	25%
Participation and Discussions	10%
Labs and Projects	25%

TESTS AND QUIZZES: Tests are an essential component in measuring the success of the student and will be given periodically throughout the year with advance notice. Quizzes will be given biweekly. Test and quizzes can only be made-up once. If a student must miss an exam or quiz for any reason **it is the responsibility of the student to notify me as soon as possible.** Make-up tests are only given during lunch or before/after school.

CLASS WORK/PARTICIPATION /ATTENDANCE: In order for students to be successful they MUST attend class. Completed class work is often graded by stamp point system and totaled every three weeks. Extra credit participation stamps are also given to those students who come to class focused, prepared, and get involved in the discussion. If you are absent, it is the students' responsibility to see me about the notes/make-up work & check the board for the homework. Students may not make up work from unexcused absences.

HOMEWORK: Earth Science requires about 30 minutes per night for reading and homework plus time needed to prepare for tests. The homework will usually consist of reading, vocabulary, and word problems. Your notes and homework should be studied, along with in-class solved problems. The homework will reinforce class activities and help guarantee understanding. Late homework will lose 50% of its total value weekly.

TARDY POLICY: It is very important for students to be in class on time. Students earn points by completing the daily Starter Activity and quizzes during the first 5-10 minutes of class. The school tardy policy will be enforced.

<u>CLASSROOM RULES:</u>	<u>SCHOOL RULES:</u>
1. Be Respectful	1. No food, drink, or gum in class or lab
2. Be on Time	2. Follow all School and Lab Behavioral Expectations
3. Be Focused	3. Follow all School and Lab Dress Codes
4. Be Prepared	4. Cell Phones must be turned off & out of sight.
5. Be in attendance everyday	5. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell!

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- **Strive to learn** and not just for a letter grade.
- **Plan ahead & ask for help!** Read and complete assignments, and feel free to ask Mr. Liddell questions
- **Read the textbook!** The additional information you will help you understand the notes more.
- **Be responsible!** Never leave your composition notebook at home.

PLEASE RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THE SYLLABUS SIGNED BY STUDENT AND YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN TO MR. LIDDELL BY _____ FOR HOMEWORK CREDIT.



By signing this document I signify that I understand that I am held accountable for my actions in this class; therefore I will be focused, prepared, and ready to work everyday. I have read and understand all course expectations and consequences and the syllabus. I will maintain Successful Science behavior.

Student Signature

(Date)

I, the parent/guardian of the above student, have read and understand the course syllabus, and all classroom expectations. I realize that in order for my student to be successful I must provide them with educational support. I know that if I have questions about my student's grade I can call/text Mr. Liddell at (951) 330-2882 or by e-mail at tliddell@hemetusd.org. I understand that my student will be notified of any changes to this syllabus, and that I can view homework and course documents from the school website.

Parent / Guardian Signature

Contact Phone Number

(Date)