

EARTH SCIENCE— COURSE DESCRIPTION

2020-2021

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For more information and updates please see Canvas

Course Description

The course is designed to follow the Utah Science with Engineering Education Standards (SEEd) for 9th grade Earth Science. Students who successfully pass the class are awarded credit towards high school graduation, and count towards your high school GPA.

Student Behavior

Each student has the right to learn in a safe and productive environment. No student has the right to take this away from others. In our classroom, we follow the way of a Snow Leopard on the “**PROWL**”: come **P**repared, be **R**espectful, be **O**n Time, have a **W**inning Attitude, and **L**isten and **L**earn.

The Student Handbook is very clear about what is and is not allowed in school. In particular, please remember:

- **Smart phones, iPods**, and other electronic signaling devices are distractions. Turn them off and keep them in your backpack during class. If I see them I will confiscate them and deliver them to the office in accordance with school policy.
- **Absences and tardies** will be handled according to school policy.

Work Expectations

Work is due on time, completed, and finished at a high quality.

- **On Time** means it is handed in/submitted online when the teacher requests.
- **Completed** means that every part must be finished as instructed.
- **High quality** means all answers are written **with complete sentences that communicate student understanding.**
 - Work not meeting these work expectations will be returned and will need to be properly completed and turned back in.
- **Retakes:** Students must complete all missing/incomplete work prior to arranging a retake opportunity and do an additional practice. Students will be able to retake assessments and quizzes for a full credit.

Attendance and Make Up Work

Being in class is crucial. We will frequently do activities, group work and have class discussions. This makes it difficult to make up work, and your classmates will miss out too. All absences, whether school-related or for personal reasons, must be documented through the attendance office.

- If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed (through Canvas) and make arrangements for making it up. Come in during PROWL and Fridays extra help sessions to ask the teacher to clarify anything you don't understand.
- Copy notes from a classmate as soon as you get back to class if necessary.
- Late work will be accepted for each unit until the day of that unit's assessment

Tardies

Class will start when the bell rings. If you enter or leave after the bell rings (arriving late, leaving for an appointment, using the restroom) sign the hall pass log and quietly take your seat. Tardies will be handled according to school policy. Remember, being on time is not only an important habit to build, it is also crucial for your and others' learning

Honor Policy

You will not receive credit for thoughts or work that are not your own. You should strive to process information to the point that you understand it and can explain it yourself. DON'T just put someone else's answer into your own words. Plagiarism will result in no credit, per school policy. **Students caught cheating or providing their paper to be copied will all receive a zero for the assignment with no chance to make up the points for that given assignment.**

Grading

Teachers don't *give* grades -- we record your progress toward the learning goals in the course. Grades will be recorded in

Skyward, and can be reviewed online. Grades will be updated weekly. If you notice an error in your grade, please notify me as soon as possible. Grades will be based on students demonstrating an understanding of the standards. Students will be graded using the Traditional Grading Scale (located in the South Jordan Middle School Disclosure Statement). Student grades will be based on the following category weights:

80% - Assessments

20% - Quizzes

Late Work

Students should strive to turn in work on time. All work is expected to be turned in before the unit assessment is given. If work is done late, it takes longer to grade/provide feedback and it could lead to a low quiz/assessment score. In class instruction on a topic ends with the unit assessment. If a student needs help completing a late/missing assignment it is up to the individual student to attend PROWL, Friday's extra help session, or learn the material on their own. Late work will be accepted for full credit up until the day of the assessment.

PROWL

Please see me during PROWL to make arrangements for any late/missing work or assessments that you plan make up. Missing work will not be made up in class. Prowl will be held on Tuesdays, and you have the option of coming in on Friday in person or virtually to receive any help you may need.

Materials:

To be used in class:

- Notebook, or a binder (with paper)
- A place to stash handouts and returned work
- Colored pencils or markers
- Ruler

Appreciated Donations:

- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer

Topics Covered
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Nature of Science● Energy Transfers● Electromagnetic Spectrum● The Big Bang Theory● The Nebular Theory and History of the Earth● Space Evolution● Layers of the Earth, Radioactive Decay, and Convection● Plate Tectonics● Constructive and Destructive Forces● Co-evolution of life and Earth's Systems● Effects of Water on Earth● Currents and Weather Patterns● Greenhouse Effect and Feedback Loops● Carbon Cycle● Paleoclimate Records● Human Activity and Natural Resources● Sustainability● Renewable Energy Solutions

I have read the Earth Science class expectations and understand I/my student will be expected to follow these expectations at all times in the classroom.

Student Name_____

Student Signature_____

Parent Signature_____

Date_____