**Earth & Environmental Science Syllabus**

## Instructor: Ms. Burris

## Email: [burrisk2@gcsnc.com](mailto:burrisk2@gcsnc.com)

**Phone #: (336) 517-7951**

## Tutoring: Tuesdays 4:30-5:30pm (by appointment)

**Course Description:** Students will develop an appreciation for Earth/Environmental processes and discover how it is integrated with all other sciences and society. Students will build an understanding of earth materials, processes, changes, and uses with concerns for good stewardship; will develop understanding of plate tectonics and their human impacts; will gain an understanding of the origin and evolution of the earth system; will investigate the hydrosphere and its influences on the lithosphere, the atmosphere, and environmental quality; will explore the dynamics of the atmosphere and its processes influencing climate; will acquire an understanding of the earth in the solar system and its position in the universe and will consider alternative choices facing human societies in their stewardship of the earth..

**Course Textbook: Glencoe Earth Science: Geology, the Environment and the universe; Francisco Borrero, Copyright © 2013 by The NcGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.**

**Course Scope and Sequence:**

**Unit 1***:* ***Earth’s place in the Universe***

EES.1 Effect of Earth's position relative to the sun

**Unit 2**: ***Earth Systems***

EES.2 The Shaping of Earth’s geosphere

EES.3 Hydrosphere and atmosphere interactions influence climate.

EES.4 Interconnections between the biosphere and other Earth systems

**Unit 3**: ***Earth and Human Activity***

EES.5 Impact of human consumption patterns on Earth's systems.

EES.6 Impact of Earth's systems on humans and the biosphere.

**Student Materials/Resource**: 3 ring binder, 2-3 pencils, 2 highlighters, colored pencils and college loose leaf ruled paper.

**NOTEBOOK**: All assignments, reference sheets, quizzes, tests, labs, etc. are to be kept in your binder. If you keep your binder well organized and it has all the materials listed above, you can earn extra credit on tests.

**Classroom Participation**: Your participation in this class is vital to your educational growth and success. You should ask questions for clarification, embellishment, illustrations and examples, or just out of curiosity. It is also important to share your thoughts, ideas, opinions, and personal examples and experiences that pertain to the topic of discussion.

# **Grading Scale**

The district-wide grading scale is as follows:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 59 and below

# **Grading Breakdown**

* Quizzes 25%
* Tests 40%
* Labs and Projects 25%
* Warm Up/Exit Ticket 5%
* Classwork/Homework 10%

**Total 100%**

**The GCSFE Exam is worth 25% of your final grade.**

Your percentage is calculated on a “total points” basis. Daily assignments and quizzes are typically worth 100 points each; tests are worth 4 daily assignments, quizzes are worth 2, and projects are worth 2.5 daily assignments. This means that tests will account for about 40% of your total grade. Grades for late work will be capped at 70%.

**Test/Quizzes**: You will have at least a 1day notice. If no new materials are presented the day before the test, you will still be required to take the test, even if you were absent for the review day. It is your responsibility to review!! . Your test will be administered electronically through SchoolNet. If you are absent, you are responsible for making up any missed tests.

**Labs/Projects/Research Papers**: Labs, projects, and research paper will be given throughout the semester. Some will be given on an individual basis, while others will be done in groups. Lab safety is the most important factor determining whether or not the students are allowed to conduct labs. Students MUST abide by all lab safety rules in order to get credit.

**CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK**: Classroom assignments may be checked for completion by the teacher and must be turned in for credit. All unfinished classroom assignments becomes homework if you were unable to complete it during class time, unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. There will be assigned homework in addition to classroom assignments. **All classroom and homework assignments are due the next day of class unless instructed otherwise.** Assignments are due immediately upon entering the classroom. **Expect homework daily!**

# **Absences and Late Work**

**ALL MISSING AND LATE WORK MUST BE TURNED IN BEFORE THAT UNIT’S SCHEDULED EXAM.**

* **Absent the day before the test** – Students are permitted to delay the exam for up three days if they miss the day immediately before an exam.
* **Absent the day of the test** – Students must provide a valid reason for their absence. If their absence is excused, then they have up to two days to complete the exam.
* **Late/Missing Work** – All work, regardless of the excuse, must be turned in no later than the day of that unit’s exam. Any work from previous units turned in after the test will be reviewed and returned to the student for use as a study aid and will receive **AT MAXIMUM 70%**credit.
* **Extended/Excessive Absences** – If a student is absent from school for more than three days, the student **MUST** make up time with the teacher **AFTER SCHOOL**, or else the student will fail the course. This is a Guilford County Schools policy.

# **Tardy Policy**

Tardiness is a serious problem that compromises learning time, and can be disruptive to not only your learning, but also the learning of your classmates. We will follow The Academy at Smith’s policy on tardies.

### **Classroom Rules**

Our classroom rules come from the set of policies that govern all students at The Academy at Smith. The following rules will be strictly enforced in our class.

* **Come to class everyday with the necessary supplies and be prepared to work from bell to bell.**
* Follow all school and district rules and policies as outlined in the GCS Student Handbook.
* Be polite and respectful of all people (bodies and property).
* Participation in all activities is required.
* Ask for help when needed. No one knows or should know everything about everything.
* Complete all assignments given.
* Do your own work, and do the work to the best of YOUR ability.
* Use school-appropriate language (no profanity).
* **No cellphone usage during class instruction times (unless instructed)**

### **Consequences**

Our classroom consequences come from the set of policies that govern all students at The Academy at Smith. Serious behavioral problems will result in an immediate discipline referral. Consistent and frequent parental contact may be required.

* Reminder of the rule or expectation
* Seat change and/or student/teacher conference
* Parent contact
* Discipline referral and parent contact **\*\*\*Note – This is only a general outline of the consequences for our class. Further action – such as an ISS or OSS – will be dealt with as the need arises.**

**Earth & Environmental Science Student/Parent Agreement**

After reading the entire syllabus, please sign this agreement acknowledging that you have read it and will abide by the rules/policies of the class and labs. Your parents will also need to read the syllabus and sign below. Return this page to Ms. Marshall within two days of receiving the syllabus and keep the syllabus in your class binder. Thanks!

**Students**: I have read the rules and procedures in the Earth & Environmental Science syllabus and understand them. I will honor these rules and procedures while in class.

Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period (circle) 1 2 3 4

**Parents/Guardians**: I have discussed the rules and procedures in the Honors Earth & Environmental Science Syllabus with my child. I understand and will support them.

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact info:

Home #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_