

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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Office Hours – 1st period \*9:30 am –10:30 am

**Course Description:** Students will develop an appreciation for Earth/Environmental processes and discover how it is integrated with all other sciences and society; 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 and air quality; 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.

**\*REMEMBER\*:** Earth and Environmental Science is one of the three high school sciences required for graduation. The other two sciences required are biology and one physical science (either physical science, academic or honors chemistry, or honors physics).

**Online Course Textbook:** [**https://www.ck12.org/book/ck-12-earth-science-for-high-school/**](https://www.ck12.org/book/ck-12-earth-science-for-high-school/)

**Course Requirements:** The only requirement I ask of students is to provide a composition tablet and pencils for classroom use. My classroom expectations are clearly visible and stated verbally regularly. Students are expected to: be on time and prepared for class, treat everyone with respect, complete and turn in assignments on time, follow directions the first time they are given, ask permission before leaving seat, use restroom prior to class (if possible), follow all other school and district guidelines, and pass with a 70% or better. All of these rules are covered under my 3 P’s: **Pencil, Paper, Posture**. Students that fail to adhere to these requirements will follow the behavioral/academic procedures set in place for my classroom as well as those set by the district.

**2023-2024 Course Outline:**

| **Quarter 1** | **Quarter 2** | **Quarter 3** | **Quarter 4** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **General Science**: matter (solids, liquids, & gases), mass, volume, length, graphing, density, etc.  **Astronomy**: earth’s structure, sun, moon, solar system, universe, etc.  **Lithosphere**: rocks, soil, weathering & erosion, plate tectonics, faults, earthquakes, volcanoes, human impact, etc. | **Lithosphere cont**.: human impact, etc.  **Energy Resources:**  sustainability, renewable energy, nonrenewable energy, solar energy, etc.  **Hydrosphere**: water cycle, surface water, groundwater, oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, glaciers, water vapor, human impact, etc.  **Atmosphere**: composition & structure, energy transfer, cloud formation,  **MID-TERM EXAM** | **Atmosphere cont.**: seasons, meteorology, air masses, wind systems, fronts, atmospheric pressure, storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, global warming, human impact, etc.  **Global Climate Change:**  microclimate, heat island, ice age, El Ninõ, Maunder minimum, greenhouse effect, global warming, global climate change | **Biosphere**: ecology, levels of organization, climate classification, biomes, feeding relationships, food chains, biodiversity, biodiversity threats, human impact, etc.  **FINAL EXAM** |

**Grading Categories and Weights:**

| **Test** | **Quiz** | **Homework** | **Lab/Projects** | **Classwork** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 25% | 20% | 10% | 15% | 30% |

**Grading Scale**: A = 100-90, B = 89-80, C = 79-70, D = 69-60, F= 59 and below

**Course Assignment Plan:**

**Canvas/Powerschool:** Canvas is our platform used to communicate and collaborate throughout the course. Students can access Canvas a few different ways: through their chromebooks, the Smith High website, and through the Canvas app. Both students and parents can access grades as I update them through Powerschool.

**Classwork/Lab Work/Homework:** Most assignments will be completed via Interactive Notebooks and/or on the Chromebooks in class. Classwork includes online coursework, notes, group work, and reading assignments. Homework assignments should take no more than 20 minutes at home. Bell Ringers/Classwork/Notes earn students 20 points daily and are graded on Fridays for a grade from their Interactive Notebooks.

**Tests:** Tests are administered at the end of each Unit (a related group of objectives) typically once every two to three weeks. These tests will be taken during class. Test grades will comprise 25% of their grade overall.

**Make-up Work/Extra Help/Late Work:** It is the responsibility of the student to get their missing assignments. A student should immediately retrieve missing assignments following an absence. Students are allowed up to one week to turn in those assignments before a failing grade is given. If a student will be out for an extended time (illness, trip, etc.), the student or parent can ask for assignments prior to leaving to prevent falling behind. Students are allowed to turn in late work, but after 5 days a 50 grade will be given. If a student needs to make up a test or wishes to receive extra help, they can arrange an appropriate time with me between Monday through Thursday.

**Unsatisfactory Grades:** Students who have unsatisfactory grades entered in PowerSchool will have the opportunity to achieve mastery level grades (\*the expectation is 70% and higher). It is called The Reteach-Reassess plan. Under this plan the student will be assessed beforehand on a certain set of standards and if not at mastery level the student will receive reteach-reassess opportunities through various activities and one test with that standard.

**Teacher Write-up**

* First (3) tardies
* Disrupting class by talking
* Not following daily classroom procedures
* Cheating

The policies in the class are to ensure that I maintain a safe, high-quality learning environment for all students. If the safety or quality of the learning environment is threatened by loss of time due to disciplining a student there will be minor consequences. See below:

1st: Verbal warning

2nd: Phone call home

3rd: Parent/teacher conference

4th: Administrative write up

**Administrative Write-up**

* Fighting
* Leave class without permission
* Skipping
* Vaping
* Excessive tardies (4 or more)
* Non-compliant (ex: refuse to turn in cell phone, etc)
* Bullying (ex: gossiping, stealing, instigating, etc)

**\*CELL PHONE POLICY\*-** Cell phones are a distraction and will not be permissible for use inside my classroom. \*Unless I give permission to use them during class.\* Students will be required to place cellphones in a secure spot in the classroom before class begins. Students know where their phones are and will be able to retrieve them once class is over.

**Absences**: After 3 unexcused absences, a warning notice will be sent to your parent/guardian to inform them of your risk of falling behind in the course due to excessive absences. Warning! If you exceed 7 absences, you are at risk of failing the class and not receiving course credit. You will receive (3) days to get make up work for ***every*** excused absence.

**Tardy**: When entering the class after the tardy bell, you will need to immediately fill out the tardy list, and proceed to your assigned seat quickly and quietly without disturbing class.

**GCS Tardy Policy 2022-2023 School Year**

The following guidelines are for students who are late\* to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th Period.

1st: Verbal warning

2nd: Phone call home

3rd: Parent/teacher conference

4th: Administrative write up

**\*1st period tardies due to GCS Bus transportation are excused**

**Bullying**:

This classroom has a zero tolerance for bullying. If you're a student or youth, **talk to your teacher, school staff, administration, parents or guardians** about the incident.

**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. McCarter within two days of receiving the syllabus and keep the syllabus in your class notebook. 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 (neatly):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Period (circle) 1 2 3 4 5 7

**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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_