GENERAL INFORMATION
Instructor name: Mike Rothschild
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Textbook: Holt, Earth Science

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course explores the foundations of Earth Science in the following related fields: Geology (with emphasis on CA Geology), Meteorology, Oceanography, and Astronomy. These units are designed to increase the students’ understanding of the physical universe as it affects their lives.

Realizing the diversity of students’ interests and abilities, activities and lessons are designed to develop critical thinking, attitudes of independent inquiry and problem solving skills through the use of textbook, computer labs, videos, computer-based models, and hands-on activities. The students will be engaged in cooperative learning in doing lab investigations and unit projects. Throughout the course the students are expected to develop skills and confidence in designing lab experiments, writing lab reports, and oral presentations.

Required materials: spiral-bound notebook, 3-ring binder with paper

Grading policy: A 90-100% B 80-89% C 70-79% D 60-69% F 0-59%

Grading categories: Tests (35%), In-class assignments (30%), Quizzes (15%), Notebook check (10%), Participation (10%)

Makeup work policy:
It is the responsibility of the student to find out about any work missed due to absence. Makeup work will be given only if the absence is excused. Students have as many days to make up the work as they were absent for an excused absence. All lecture notes will need to be copied from another student. Most labs can’t be made up. If you missed one, ask me for an alternate assignment. If a student is suspended by the administration for any reason or an unexcused absence, make up work will not be given to the student and zero entered in the grade book. Excused makeup tests and quizzes must be made up within two days upon returning to class from an absence either at lunch or after school. No makeup tests or quizzes will be administered during class. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the test or quiz is made up within the prescribed timeframe or a zero will be entered in the grade book.

After school help:
After school help will be available from 3:15-4:30 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Let me know in advance if you are coming.

Late work policy:
Any acceptable late work that is turned in after the due date and time will be given partial credit.
Class Rules and Expectations:

1. **Bring materials necessary for learning**
   a. Pen/pencil
   b. Notebook
   c. Binder with paper
   Participation points will be deducted for failure to bring necessary materials.

2. **Respect teacher and fellow classmates.**

3. **Students are allowed to have cell phones in their possession but they are not allowed out in class unless given explicit permission.**
   a. If I don't see it or hear it, there will be no issues.
   b. If I see it without permission to use it, the device will be confiscated and a parent/guardian will have to pick it up in the office. **Never** should I hear it!
   c. Refusal to hand over a cell phone when asked will result in a referral to the discipline office

4. **No food – drinks must be in an enclosed container.**

5. **Bathroom passes – only after the first 10 minutes and not within the last 10 minutes**

6. **Arrive on time.** Late for class may result in after school detention issued by the administration.

**Note to all students and Parents:** Please feel free to contact me via email and I will get back to you in a timely manner. My goal is to make sure that every student is successful in my class and I believe that active participation and communication are essential.