



PHYSICAL SCIENCE (QRS301)

Physical Science (Earth Science) is a year-long science course that explores the foundations of Earth Science in the following related topics / fields: Earth's place in the universe, plate tectonics and large-scale system interactions, the roles of water and climate and weather and Earth and human activity. This course meets the physical science requirement for high school graduation and is designed to allow students to broaden their approach to learning Earth/Space science and see immediate applications of the concepts presented. The understanding of how our Earth systems work and interact will allow students to be knowledgeable about decisions impacting their future. The course is challenging and requires students to learn to work independently and cooperatively toward accomplishing goals

Mr. Rothschild

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Class website: <https://sites.google.com/site/mrrothschildjfk/>

Textbook

Primary Text: Holt, Earth Science, Mead A. Allison; Arthur DeGaetano; Jay M. Pasachoff Publisher: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston

Required Materials:

A 3-ring binder with lined paper, pencil.

Grading Policy

All assignments are worth points and grades will be calculated based on the combined total amount of points earned in each category. Points will be divided into the following categories:

- **Summative Assessments** (40%) Demonstration of content knowledge, intended to assess comprehension
- **Writing Assignments** (35%) Demonstration of analytical skills and ability to communicate ideas through written form
- **Participation & Homework** (15%) Demonstration of engagement within the classroom and responsibilities for completing necessary tasks outside the classroom.
- **Behavior** (10%) Demonstration of ability to conduct oneself appropriately and with respect to peers and teacher

Course Outline

First semester:

Earth's place in the universe

Plate tectonics and large-scale system interactions

Second Semester:

The roles of water and climate and weather

Earth and human activity

Turn Over →

Course Objectives

To help students formulate an answer to the question: "What is the universe, and what is Earth's place in it?"

To help students formulate an answer to the questions: "How and why is Earth constantly changing?"

To help students formulate an answer to the question: "How do Earth's surface processes and human activities affect each other?"

Academic Expectations

- The most important skill you will take from this class is the ability to think critically, scientifically, and creatively in order to solve problems and answer questions about the world around you
- This science course is designed to give students an academically rigorous, hands-on, inquiry based, and detailed investigation of our Earth.
- Attendance is vital. Should you miss class, it is **your** responsibility to find out what you've missed.
- Students will enter the classroom ready for class. This means removing any hats, hoods and earphones and putting away cell phones and all personal technology.
- As soon as the bell rings, students are expected to be at their desks and waiting silently for the teacher's instructions.

Behavior Expectations

- Be safe... do not touch experiments without instructions
- Follow all safety rules
- Always stay seated! Raise your hand and get permission to move for any reason
- Be respectful to EVERYONE
- Follow all school rules
- Teacher dismisses the class not the bell
- Remain quiet when others are speaking
- You are responsible for your actions, thoughts and words towards classmates, teachers and yourself
- Be ORGANIZED
- Be proactive...ask for help when you "Don't get it"
- Use Please and Thank You = Manners are still very important

If you choose to break a class or school rule and your instructor makes a request of you, follow directions immediately and without question.

Most teacher decisions are not negotiable but, if you would like to discuss the issue please do this during down time or after class, NOT when the request is made.

I may agree with you! I realize that sometimes I do not have all of the information. Regardless, do not challenge the request when it is made because that choice WILL result in a more severe consequence.

Please cut on dotted line and return contract below with both student and parent/guardian signatures.

Student is to keep the class syllabus in their binder for the entire year.

I have read and agree to follow all of the class expectations and guidelines found in Mr. Rothschild's class syllabus.

Student name: _____ Student signature: _____

Parent/guardian name: _____ Parent/guardian signature: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____ Email address: _____

Preferred method of contact (phone or email): _____ Date: _____