



# 2017-2018 COURSE SYLLABUS

## EARTH - PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Teacher: Mrs. Dara-Lee Tribes

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This is a course that is required for graduation from high school.

### COURSE FOCUS:

1<sup>st</sup> Semester:

Earth Science – the study of the world around you. Our topics will include Astronomy (study of outer space), Geology (study of rocks, earthquakes, volcanoes and plate tectonics), Meteorology (study of the atmosphere, climate and climate change), and Oceanography (study of the oceans and water systems). This course will use hands-on experimentation, activities, and direct instruction. You will be enabled to learn the ‘how’ and ‘why’, not just the ‘what’ of science.

2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

Physical Science investigates the fundamentals of Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Earth Science. Math skills will be called upon as force, motion, and energy are investigated. Electricity, magnetism, and waves will be discussed as the student learns how these are formed and the features that characterize them. The class also incorporates topics concerning the physical processes on earth, and the motions, characteristics, and forces in space.

### COURSE GOALS:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify models of Earth (latitude/longitude, maps, GPS)
2. Describe how plate tectonics affect the Earth’s movement
3. Describe the differences between rocks (rock cycle, igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic)
4. Identify the causes of Earthquakes and Volcanic eruptions (seismic waves, causes, California Hazards, types of volcanoes, magma)
5. Explain elements of the ocean (waves, water salinity & Density, currents, and upwelling)
6. Use the principles of motion and force to solve real-world problems
7. Evaluate simple systems that incorporate the principles of force and motion
8. Explain that acceleration is the rate that the velocity of an object is changing
9. Describe electricity and explain how it flows and what it is made of
10. Correlate force, motion, and energy with processes around us

### REQUIREMENTS:

**Textbook(s):** *Earth Science, published by Holt (Please keep your textbook at home.)*

*Bring to class everyday: Pencil and/or Pen (dark blue or black ink only)*

*You will need to have your Interactive Journal in class daily – if you take it home to finish something, you MUST bring it back to school.*

### GRADING POLICY:

I will utilize Infinite campus to update your grades online on a regular basis, however it is your responsibility to retain all returned work. Only by keeping your returned work can unintentional mistakes be corrected. You will have a binder to keep work in. I highly suggest you purchase some chapter dividers so keep work separated for the Mid-Term and Final Tests.

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following cut-offs:

A= 100-90% B= 89-80%, C= 79-70%, D = 69-60% and F = 59% or below

Participation/Effort & Interactive Notebook	30%
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Quizzes	20%
Tests	20%
Labs	30%

#### **ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDED IN PARTICIPATION & EFFORT GRADE**

##### **Interactive Journal: (25 points each week)**

This will be done throughout the semester. You are strongly encouraged to keep up with the daily use of this as catching up later will be very difficult if you slack off. You will be given pages to complete on one side and you will record notes on the other side. This will be explained in detail at the beginning of the school year.

##### **Article Report: (50 points)**

You will read at least 1 article related to an area of science or a famous scientist (your choice as to what area). A separate sheet will be given with specific instructions at least three weeks before this assignment is due. You may use the Internet for this however; you may not use Wikipedia. We will all either go to the computer room or have computer carts for only two dates to work on this. **You are expected to do the majority of this work as homework type work**

##### **Project: (50 individual + 50 group points for a total of 100 points possible)**

During the end of each semester, you and a small group (3-4 students) will do a science project, which should be unique and creative. This is to 'show off' the scientific skills you have learned during the semester. This will count as a portion of your Mid-Term & Final. You will need to prepare for this way in advance to be able to have it complete by the semester's end. Specific instructions as to what to include in the project will be provided to you well in advance and will require your parents signature so they know you have a project due.

#### **EXPECTATIONS: (SEE 12 RULES)**

##### **Passes: (unused passes = 5 points each at the end of each quarter)**

You will have five (5) passes to leave the room any reason per quarter. Should you get "caught" doing things you should not be doing while using a pass, all passes will be forfeit and you will have to wait until the next quarter to try again. If you lose your passes, you will not have the ability to leave during class without having Ms. Sara walk you to where you are going. Additionally, you may use ONE pass per quarter as a "day off" however, you will still be responsible for the work you miss while taking you "day off" pass. **Bonus!!** Any passes you have left at the end of the semester will be counted for extra points in the Participation/Effort & Interactive Notebook part of the total grade. They are worth 5 points each!

##### **Cell Phones:**

There will be times when you will be using your cell phone in class HOWEVER... for the majority of the time, you will be asked to keep your cell phones off your desk/table tops at all times. Should you have your phone out when you are not supposed to be using it, you will be asked to give it to the teacher or paraprofessional for the remainder of the period. We will ask one time only. If you refuse to give the phone up, you will receive a referral for having your phone out as well as refusing to follow directions and refusing to comply with an adult's request during class. **CELL PHONES ARE NEVER TO BE OUT DURING LABS!! Should you have your cell phone out during a lab, you will be removed from the lab and will have to do it over on your own time by appointment with the teacher.**

**GUM IS NOT ALLOWED IN CLASS AT ALL EVER!!** If you must have something in your mouth, you can ASK FOR PERMISSION to suck on a jolly rancher or lifesaver – Gum chewing is not allowed per the school site rules.

**Spinners and other "toys" are not permitted in class unless a case manager prescribes it as an IEP related accommodation.** I do have access to your IEP's so please do not try to "play me" on this.



**Absence/Make-up Policy:**

- It is **your responsibility** to get make-up work. It is also your responsibility to turn in any work that was collected while you were gone.
- You must make up any work missed due to an excused absence within three days of returning to school. If you miss a test, you must make up the test after school within one or two days. If you are absent the day of a review for the test you are still expected to take the test the day you return to school. Check with another student to see if you can copy their notes, and obtain the necessary handouts from me.
- You are responsible for scheduling time to make-up quizzes and tests A.S.A.P. – within one or two days, if possible.
- You can schedule tutoring time with me before or after school, if necessary.
- No make-up work will be allowed for unverified absences or suspensions.
- Due to the inherent complex nature of setting up and cleaning up laboratories, missed labs will not be allowed to be made up.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to (A) put forth my best effort in this class (B) follow the teacher and classroom aide instructions first time asked, (c) inform teacher or aide if I am having a bad day (cause that happens) (D) conduct myself in a responsible manner at all times during class (E) abide by all classroom and school site rules & procedures, (F) return all borrowed materials in good working order on the day they are borrowed (if I do not, I will not be allowed to borrow anything until the object/item is returned or replaced by me)

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gmail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian,

By signing below you acknowledge that you have read the information contained in this document and understand that your student will have several pieces of “at home” or homework to do in the form of any missed or incomplete work from class and project based work as mentioned above. Please do not hesitate to email me with questions/concerns regarding these at the email address or phone number provided above. The best form of contact for me is email or texting if you prefer. You can email me and I will provide my cell phone number if you would like texted updates or information. ☺

Parent’s/Guardian’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_