



# 2019--2020 COURSE SYLLABUS

## COURSE (QRS 302) Physical Science (Earth Science- 10 units)

### Course Description :

This course explores the foundation of Earth Science in the following related field: 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 textbooks, 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.

**Teacher(s) Name:** Mrs. Mitzie Romero

**Teacher Email Address:** [mitzie-romero@scusd.edu](mailto:mitzie-romero@scusd.edu)

**Teacher Phone Number:** 395-5090 x 506121 Room # B21

### Textbook

*Holt Earth Science* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston). Allison, Mead A; DeGaetano, Arthur; Pasachoff, Jay M.,

### Required Materials:

The following materials must be brought to class everyday:

- Textbook (only on days required, must be covered)
- Pens (black and blue), Pencils, eraser
- Highlighters
- Colored Pencil (12 count)
- 3-ring binder with lined paper (assignments, lab reports, and homework)

### Grading Policy:

Coursework will be graded as follows:

Classwork/Assignment	- 20 %	A = 90-100%
Lab Activities/Unit Projects/ Research Work	- 20 %	B = 80-89%
Homework/ Binder/ Participation	-20 %	C = 70-79%
Quizzes/Chapter Tests	-20 %	D = 60-69%
Finals	-20 %	F = 59% and below
Total	100	

**Course Outline:**

The course will cover the following Units (Big Ideas):

- Science as Inquiry: Scientific Method, Skills, and Processes
- Studying the Earth: Earth's Chemistry, Rocks and Minerals, CA Geology
- The Dynamic Earth (Plate Tectonics) Building the Land (Earthquakes, Folds, Faults, Mountains, and Volcano); Eroding the Land (Weathering, Soil Erosion, Deposition)
- The Oceans: Ocean Basin, Composition and Movement of Ocean Water
- Meteorology: Composition of the Atmosphere, Water Cycle, Weather and Climate
- Astronomy: Earth Place in the Universe, and Its Relationship to the other members of the Solar System.

**Course Objectives:**

The students build on ideas/concepts and skills learned in their previous science courses to explain more in-depth phenomena central to the understanding of the three core ideas addressed in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), namely: the Dynamic Earth System; the Earth and Human Activities; and the Earth's Place in the Universe.

Throughout the course, the students are expected to develop skills and confidence In asking questions and defining solutions; develop and use models; designing and implementing lab experiments; writing lab reports; and skills in communicating through evidence-based discussions, and oral presentation.

**Academic Expectations:**

- All assignments must be done neatly (in black/ blue pen) or pencil and turned in on time, and properly labeled with **last name, name, period and date**. All assignments will be graded/ assigned points. **NO Late Work will be accepted.**
- Class assignments, warm ups, and homework must be compiled by dates in your binder. Bring your binder to class everyday.
- Use lined paper in your binder for class notes, lab observations, discussions, and reflections. Lab reports following the format (to be given on the 1<sup>st</sup> lab activity) will be required for every lab investigation/lab activity. Daily notes will be checked on a weekly basis so have them ready for grading on Fridays.
- When absent the previous day, pick up assignment from the assignment corner the following day, or ask from your teacher **before school starts or at the end of the day**.
- After School Help will be available from 3:30-4:20 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesday, or during lunchtime every day.

**Group Work Norms:**

- **Participate:** Everyone contributes; every contribution is valued.
- **Be Attentive:** One voice at a time. **LISTEN** attentively and respectfully to what others say.
- **Probe for understanding:** Try **first** to understand, then to be understood.
- **Put inquiry and Learning at the center:** Prioritize thinking and learning, not necessarily “knowing” the answer. No one teaches, everyone facilitates.

**Classroom Expectations:**

- Pick up all assignments/handouts from the front counter as soon as you get inside the room. (Sharpen pencil before class starts).
- Be in your seat when the tardy bell rings and start working on the warm up activity posted on the screen. Always remember: **“Warm Up time is a Quiet Time”**
- Self-control is essential in a good learning environment. Talking, wasting time, and other undisciplined behavior will prevent you from doing your best in class. Use your restroom passes wisely. (Only 4 passes for the whole semester which is equivalent to 2 missed assignment/homework if not used until the end of the semester.
- When the “Attention signal” (raised hand) is given, stop whatever you are doing and raise your hand to acknowledge the signal. Everyone must pay attention and listen to the instruction given by the teacher.
- Ask permission from your teacher (raise your hand) before leaving your seat.
- Dress code and no electronics policy will be observed in the classroom.
- Remain seated until dismissed. (Throw trash/ scraps on your way out of the room at the end of the period.

**Classroom Rules and Discipline Policy:**

Students are expected to observe the following Classroom Rules:

- **Be Respectful.**
- **Be Safe.**
- **Be Responsible.**
- **Do or Show Your Best all the Time.**

**Consequences:**

- Warning.
- Change Seat.
- Lunch/ After School Detention.
- Parent Contact.
- Referral to VP.

**Discipline Policy:**

The student is responsible for his or her behavior in class.

**“Success is nothing more than a few simple DISCIPLINE practiced every day.”**  
(John Rohn, American Business Author and Philosopher)