

Earth and Space Science Syllabus
Jefferson High School – 2019-2020
Instructor: Mr. Price Email: d.price@k12.wv.us

Course Description:

The ninth grade Earth and Space Science (ESS) course builds upon science concepts from middle school by revealing the complexity of Earth's interacting systems, evaluating and using current data to explain Earth's place in the universe and enabling students to relate Earth Science to many aspect of human society. Disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts are intertwined as students focus on five ESS content topics: Space Systems, History of Earth, Earth's Systems, Weather and Climate, and Human Sustainability. The objectives strongly reflect the many societally relevant aspects of ESS (resources, hazards, environmental impacts) with an emphasis on using engineering and technology concepts to design solutions to challenges facing human society. Engineering, Technology, and the Application of Science objectives are integrated throughout instruction as students define problems and design solutions related to the course objectives. There is a focus on several scientific practices which include developing and using models, planning and conducting investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, using mathematical and computational thinking, constructing explanations and designing solutions. Students will engage in active inquiries, investigations, and hands-on activities as they develop and demonstrate conceptual understandings and research and laboratory skills described in the objectives. Safety instruction is integrated in all activities, and students will implement safe procedures and practices when manipulating equipment, materials, organisms, and models.

Daily Procedures and Class Routines:

Before class, students prepare by pre-reading from the textbook, reviewing the previous day's notes and handouts, and reporting to class ready to learn and participate in that day's activities. Upon entering the classroom, students take their assigned seats and begin working on the day's assignment, which is posted on the board. During class, students remain quiet and attentive, on task and actively engaged throughout the period. After raising a hand and being acknowledged by the teacher, a student may ask or answer questions or make comments to the teacher or class.

Earth and Space Science provides many opportunities for hands-on learning, as well as laboratory and field activities. During these activities, students participate fully and in a cooperative manner. Students follow the same rules in the field as in the class. At the end of class, students are dismissed by the teacher (not the bell).

Excellent behavior and cooperation is greatly appreciated. Students are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to make the most of their learning opportunities. Behaviors that disrupt the learning process of others will not be tolerated.

Grading Practices, Assignment Types, and Weights:

Grades are assigned in accordance with Jefferson County Schools policy. Student grades will be weighted approximately as follows:

- 30% Tests and Quizzes
- 20% Laboratory/Field Investigations
- 20% In-Class Assignments and Participation
- 10% Notebook
- 10% Term Project
- 10% Homework

The class utilizes the WVDE standard grading scale:

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

Assignment Due Dates and Late Work Submission:

Current assignments and due dates are posted on the board daily. The deadline for submitting assignments is the end of the student's class period on the due date posted. Assignments may be turned in prior to the due date if the student anticipates being absent on the due date. Assignments not turned in by the deadline will be recorded as a zero.

Except as outlined below, assignments turned in after the deadline will not be graded. To ensure evaluation of late work, all assignments submitted after the deadline must be clearly labeled on the header as "LATE" and include a brief written, valid explanation for the delay, together with the students initials or signature and the date submitted.

(Example, "***LATE - Absent on [date]. [Initials] [date submitted]***".) Please note the date submitted must be within the timeframe outlined below.

Homework Expectations

The study of Earth and Space Science requires that students exercise the "introduction, practice, review" method of teaching and learning, whereby students are introduced to a new concept in class, practice at home, then review the following day in class.

Therefore, students are assigned homework most weekday evenings. (Homework is not usually assigned on weekends or holidays.) The goal of homework is to aid in deep learning. Copying other students' work or failing to complete the homework as assigned is unacceptable. Homework is graded based on demonstrated effort.

Make-up Work and Missed Assignments:

In accordance with Jefferson County School policy, students will be granted one school day for each day of absence to complete assignments once they are provided (e.g. missed Tuesday, return and receive work Wednesday, due Thursday). It is the student's responsibility to initiate the request for the missed assignments and to complete the make-up work in the time allotted.

Work assigned prior to an absence that comes due during the absence must be turned in upon return from the absence. Students are encouraged to contact their teachers through LiveGrades to request assignments. During extended absences, students without access to LiveGrades may contact their School Counselor to request assignments. Please allow 48 hours for requests to be honored, and note that not all assignments may be available if requested in advance.

When a student misses work due to sleeping in class, walking out of class, skipping class, or work refusal, the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. The student will not be permitted to re-take or make-up the assignment, unless the assignment is a test. If the assignment is a test / assessment, the failing grade will be recorded, and the student may initiate a request for reassessment in accordance with the county grading policy.

Classroom Expectations:

Respect - Looking after people and property

- Take care of your classroom, laboratory, equipment, supplies, and materials.
- Leave no trace:
 - Wash and dry labware after use.
 - Clean up and wipe down your lab station.
 - Return items to their proper places.
 - Report any damage or supply needs.

Responsibility - Behaving sensibly and making good choices

- Arrive to class on time and with everything you need to succeed.
- Sit in your assigned seat and avoid distractions.
- Do not eat, drink, or chew gum in the classroom or laboratory.
- Be an active participant in the learning process.
- Use care, caution, and common sense in the laboratory.
- Give your best effort in everything you do.

Kindness - Being friendly, generous, and courteous

- Be nice.
- Listen quietly when the teacher or others are speaking.
- Raise your hand to be recognized.
- All questions are good questions.

Honesty - Being truthful and fair

- Be a good classmate and lab partner.
- Be honest with yourself – don't make excuses.
- Do your own work.
- Set realistic expectations and goals for yourself.

Safety in the Science Laboratory:

Students are expected to demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of safety rules and procedures before working in the laboratory. Students will not be permitted to participate in laboratory activities if the teacher has reason to believe students' safety will be compromised.

Recommended School Supplies:

- Standard 3-Hole Punched Notebook Paper
- Pens and/or Pencils
- 3-Prong Pocket Folder
- Composition Notebook (Quad Rule preferred)
- Scientific Calculator (Texas Instruments TI 30Xa (or any TI 30 Series), Casio FX115ES or FX300ES, or other scientific calculator.)

Safety equipment is provided by the school. The school provides chemical splash-resistant safety goggles, chemical resistant aprons, and other required safety equipment as required to provide adequate protection from injury. Students may purchase and use their own safety equipment, provided it meets OSHA requirements and provides adequate safety protection. Please note, only certified "chemical splash resistant" goggles and only flame resistant and chemical resistant aprons or lab coats are permitted in lieu of school-provided safety gear.

Cell Phones and Personal Electronic Devices:

While "smart devices" can be useful educational tools, disruptive or distracting use and any use that could be considered cheating is strictly prohibited. This class utilizes the school-wide color-code system for smart device use.

- RED - All devices silenced and away.
- YELLOW - Limited use permitted as specified by the teacher.
- GREEN - Active use permitted to support instructional activities.

Please be reminded that it is your responsibility to use such devices appropriately at all times while at school.

Cougar Hour Academic Assistance:

Students are strongly encouraged to visit Mr. Price in room B-14 on Thursdays during Cougar B for free tutoring, to work on assignments, and to make up the most recent laboratory exercise. No appointment necessary.

Keys to Success in Mr. Price's Class:

1. Get to class on time every day. Class starts when the bell rings, so be ready!
2. Pay attention in class. Now is a great time to learn how to ignore distractions and stay focused!
3. Read, read, and read some more. It's amazing how much you can learn from the book!
4. Take the time to do your best. Quality matters in everything you do!
5. If you are having difficulty, please ask for help. Mr. Price is here to help you succeed!

Teacher Contact Information:

The fastest, most reliable way to reach the teacher is via email at d.price@k12.wv.us. Every effort is made to respond to email within 1 school day.

Parents and students are strongly encouraged to contact the teacher anytime with questions, concerns, or suggestions to ensure student achievement.

Mr. Shane Price
Email: d.price@k12.wv.us

INSTRUCTIONS: Please print, sign, and return this page only. Thank you!

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A copy of this Syllabus is posted on Mr. Price's teacher web page. As part of a school-wide effort to reduce consumption and waste, a paper copy of this Syllabus will be only provided upon request.

Print Student Name: _____ Class Period: _____

Acknowledgement:

I have read and reviewed the Earth and Space Science Syllabus in its entirety and agree to adhere to the policies and procedures as set forth herein.

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date
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Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Email Address:

Phone: _____ Best Time to Call: _____