Earth Science II Syllabus

TEACHER INFORMATION

Name: Ernie Longworth
Phone: Will be provided in class.
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Office Hours: I am always an e-mail away and will respond promptly. I will be available by phone Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:30 -6:30pm.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

CS 421 One fully-year credit
The laboratory course provides an advanced survey of earth science topics chosen from oceanography, geology, astronomy and meteorology. The content is organized around thematic units and human activities and influences are explored. This course meets one science requirement for the high school diploma.

The course is truly unique in that YOU will have an opportunity to choose much of what you study. Because your previous coursework has given you a working knowledge of the fundamentals of Earth Science, we have latitude for studies of emerging fields, new technology and careers in the Earth Sciences. We will explore the content through the lens of major world events that have shaped history. You will have an opportunity to a close look at "things you have always wondered about" or questions you find interesting. This is a great opportunity to explore the world in which you live in a course that you help to create.**Pre-requisites: Earth/Space Science I**

COURSE OUTCOMES

Through this course it is intended that you will:

- Investigate explanations for the origin of the Universe and its parts
- Understand how planet Earth fits into the larger picture of the Universe
- Investigate the organization and nature of objects in the Universe on the scale of galaxies, solar systems and that of the Earth and Moon system
- Investigate the composition of planet Earth and the large scale forces acting through plate tectonics that shape the planet.
- Investigate the forces of wind, water and gravity that act on Earth's surface
- Investigate the significant physical events and life forms throughout Earth's 4.5 billion year history
- Investigate the blanket of air surrounding Earth responsible for creating our weather and climate
- Investigate Earth's oceans

HOW TO MEET COURSE GOALS

Throughout the course, you will be submitting assignments through Blackboard to be evaluated. It is important that you submit your assignments in the correct manner with the correct assignment title. There are three types of assignments that will be submitted. You can find reminders as to how to submit the individual assignments in the unit rubric for each section.

- Strategies
    - Be aware of and adhere to assignment due dates.
    - Stay organized; a good way to do this is to maintain a class notebook.

- Communicate. Because the course is intended to be self-guided, it is especially important that you make me aware when you are falling behind, having difficulty with the subject matter or need to make me aware of special circumstances.

GRADING:
It is very important that you understand how you will be evaluated for this course. Refer to this description periodically to make sure you are clear. You will be graded on a total points system. Every assignment you are responsible for completing is assigned a point value as described below. Your score on any assignment or for any given grading period is determined using the following formula:

Score = (Points received / Points possible) X 100

Point Value Explanation

Assignment Type	Value	Evaluation Method	Frequency
Discussion Board Postings	100	Rubric	1 per unit
Assignments	40	Rubric	variable (2-4) per unit
Self Evaluation	50	Rubric	1 per unit
Independent Investigations	100	Rubric	1 per unit

MATERIALS NEEDED
You do not have a textbook for this class; rather your reading will be from outside resources such as online magazines, newspapers and websites.

COURSE SCHEDULE
This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Please follow the pace as dictated in each Unit and Lesson Overview. This schedule gives you the general due dates but the lesson overviews give you the specifics.

1st Semester

- Meteorology
- Oceanography
- Astronomy

2nd Semester

- Physical Geology
- Historical Geology
- Natural Resources and Energy

COURSE POLICIES:
As is the case with all courses, you will get from the experience what you put into it. With that said, it is expected that you will:

- Log in weekly.
- Meet assignment due dates.
- Self Advocate- Seek help from your instructor when needed.
- Communicate. Keep me aware of your progress. **E-mail the instructor once a week** to communicate your progress and/or any concerns. It can simply be : “Doing fine”
- **Assignment Submission Deadlines**: Lesson due dates are noted in the **My Grades** area and will be announced ahead of time.

- Most submission due dates are on Fridays and Sundays of each week. Assignments should be submitted by the **end of the day (11:59 p.m**.) on the date they are due.

CCPS POLICIES:

Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS): Students are expected to abide by the academic integrity policies of CCPS, especially those pertaining to plagiarism, cheating, password sharing, and attendance. (For specific guidelines, refer to the *CCPSOnline Student and Parent Handbook* included in the student orientation.)

LEARNING RESOURCES:

National Weather Service

Additional links and resources are located in the Resources folder of the class.