

Seventh Grade Science

2016-17

Mr. Mann
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Class Description/Content

A semester class that will focus on the scientific method, chemistry, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, ecosystems, human impact on Earth's resources, geology.

State/District Requirements

All content taught will be focused on Next Generation Science Standards relating to the topics listed above. A work sample will be done where students use the scientific method. An emphasis for students will be on using evidence to support their answers.

Make-Up/Late Work

Students will be given homework sporadically throughout the year. Usually activities will be done in class with the emphasis on having students doing as much hands-on work as possible. Late work is accepted, but may be graded down depending on the situation. If a student is absent, s/he is responsible to ask the Mr. Mann what needs to be made up.

Modifications for TAG Students

Students will be challenged in a variety of ways based on pre/post assessments. Open-ended questions/activities, clustering, self-directed activities and learning to think outside the box are a few ways students will be challenged.

Supplies

Spiral, basic calculator, notebook paper, pencils, black or blue ballpoint pen, colored pencils

Behavior Expectations

Students are expected to be a positive influence on the class toward creating a safe atmosphere for learning and respect.

Grading

- Grades will continue running through to the end of the semester. They will not restart every 6 weeks.
- A second assessment of the same standard will be weighted 4x the value of the first assessment. Students still not proficient after 2nd assessment can arrange a 3rd attempt outside of class time.
- There is a "final exam" assessment that covers many standards. In this instance, students would only have one opportunity to show proficiency on this type of assessment.
- The average of each standard's assessment grade will comprise 80% of a student's overall final grade. The remaining 20% is their homework/classwork grade.

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- The basic foundation of our grading policy is communicating a level of proficiency for each assessed standard. We will use the following 4 point scale when grading assessments:

4 = Advanced
 3 = Proficient
 2 = Basic
 1 = Below Basic

- Traditional letter grades will still be communicated on student report cards. The following scale will be used to calculate letter grades:

Letter Grade	Assessment Grade (4-pt scale)	Levels of Proficiency	Percentages
A	3.50-4.00	Advanced	87.5% - 100%
B	2.76-3.49	Proficient	69.0% - 87.4%
C	2.01-2.75	Basic	50.1% - 68.9%
D	1.51-2.00		37.7% - 50.0%
F	0-1.50	Below Basic	0% - 37.6%

Rich Mann
 Science Teacher