

EARTH SYSTEMS COURSE SYLLABUS 2014-2015

COURSE TITLE: Earth Systems	E-MAIL: thipp@forsyth.k12.ga.us
TEACHER NAME: Mr. Tommy Hipp	
ROOM: West Hall Room 371	

Course Description: Earth Systems is designed to continue student investigations that began in K-8 Earth Science and Life Science curricula and investigate the connections among Earth's systems through Earth history. These systems – the atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, and biosphere – interact through time to produce the Earth's landscapes, ecology, and resources. Earth Systems investigates phenomena fundamental to the sciences of geology and physical geography, including the early history of the Earth, plate tectonics, landform evolution, the Earth's geologic record, weather and climate, and the history of life on Earth.

Standards: Course standards can be found at
<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/Pages/BrowseStandards/ScienceStandards9-12.aspx>

Learning Resources/Textbook(s): With the emergence of technology as a tool for learning, South Forsyth High School will be utilizing various resources to assist with instruction, including ITS Learning, online textbooks, and interactive websites. In addition to these web based instructional tools, this course will also have a classroom set of textbooks. Should you feel that your child would benefit from having a textbook at home in addition to the classroom textbook, please contact me.

Required Assignments: This course consists of thirteen units. Within each unit students will be expected to complete assigned homework, quizzes, labs, and unit tests. Tests will be given at the completion of each unit: longer units may require two unit tests. Units of Study include:

Introduction to Earth Systems (Ch. 1, 2)	History of the Earth (Ch. 8, 9)
Astronomy (Ch. 26, 27, 29, 30)	Rocks & Minerals (Ch. 4, 5, 6)
Structure of the Earth (Ch. 3, 10, 28)	Deformations of Earth's Crust (Ch. 11, 12, 13)
Weathering & Erosion (Ch. 14)	Freshwater (Ch. 15, 16, 17)
The Oceans (Ch. 19, 20)	Currents & Erosion (Ch. 21, 18)
The Atmosphere (Ch. 22, 23)	Weather & Climate (Ch. 24, 25)
Resources, Energy, Human Impact on the Earth System (Ch. 7)	

Availability for Extra Help: My planning period is 1st. I am available every afternoon until 4:30-Room 486 (students /parents need to let me know ahead of time so I don't leave early), and every morning at 7:30-Room 486.

Make-up Work: All students are responsible for material covered in class regardless of attendance. If a student should be absent, it is his/her responsibility to obtain class notes. Students will use Replacement Worksheets (on ITS Learning) to replace any missed or poorly scored daily work.

Grading Calculations:

Course Average = 50% (1ST Sem. Course Work) + 50% (2ND Sem. Course Work)
1ST & 2ND Semester Course Work = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

Grading Policy:

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

Failing = Below 70

**Formative Assessments include, but are not limited to homework, class work, practice tests, rough drafts, and sections of projects/ research papers/presentations.*

**Summative Assessments include, but are not limited to unit tests, final projects, final essays, final research papers, and final presentations.*

EXPECTED BEHAVIOR:

This classroom is a place of learning and will be treated as such. You, as the student, will be given the respect that you deserve and therefore, I, as the teacher, will be given the respect that I deserve. You are expected to follow the rules of the classroom in addition to the rules of the county and school.

1. Absolutely NO food, drinks or candy during LABS.
2. Respect yourself and others.
3. Do not talk without permission during lectures or instructions.
4. DO NOT BE A DRONE! Science is all about challenging the status quo. I expect students to contribute to lectures and question my information. Just because I say it doesn't make it true. If a student knows different and can back it up with proof, then I want them correcting me.

Failure to adhere to these rules will result in after school detention or administrative referrals. The consequence for the first time offense will be detention, any further offenses will result in an administrative referral. Major violations, especially those where students can be harmed, will be cause for immediate administrative referral and removal from class.

I understand and will follow the following requirements, rules and expectations to the best of my ability.

Student Signature_____ Date_____

Student Name (please print) _____

Parent Signature_____ Date_____

Parent Name (please print) _____

Please provide the following parent contact information:

- Phone number where you can be reached during the school day _____
- If you cannot be reached during the school day, when would be a good time to contact you? What number can I reach you at during that time? _____
- Parent Email address _____

Thank you for including this information. I will only use this information when absolutely necessary for the benefit of your child.

Mr. Hipp
Earth Science
South Forsyth High School