

## ***EARTH SYSTEMS COURSE SYLLABUS 2016-2017***

COURSE TITLE: Earth Systems	E-MAIL: <a href="mailto:mquispe@forsyth.k12.ga.us">mquispe@forsyth.k12.ga.us</a>
TEACHER NAME: Mrs. Katie Quispe	PHONE: 770-781-2264 EXT: 100486
ROOM: 486	

**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 [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org)

**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 Mrs. Boff.

**Required Assignments:** This course consists of twelve 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:

**Unit One**—Nature of Science

**Unit Two**—Intro to Earth Science

**Unit Three**-- Mapping Earth's Surface

**Unit Four**--- Rocks and Minerals

**Unit Five**--- Plate Tectonics

**Unit Six**---Forces that Shape the Earth

**Unit Seven**—Earth's Changing Surface

**Unit Eight**--A Trip Through Earth's History

**Unit Nine**—Earth's Waters

**Unit Ten**---Earth's Atmospheres

**Unit Eleven**---Weather and Climate

**Unit Twelve**—Astronomy and Space Science

**Availability for Extra Help:** I am available Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 7:45-8:15 if an appointment is made. I am also available at other days/times by appointment.

**Makeup Work:** All missed work and assessments are the responsibility of the student when they are absent from school. A student who is absent on the class day before a regularly scheduled assessment will be responsible for completing the assessment on the regularly scheduled day and time. Students who have been absent more than two consecutive days (including the assessment day) will be given five (5) school days to make up the assessment and/or other assignments. This does not include major projects, research papers, etc., where the deadline has been posted in advance. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period of time to make up work if there are extenuating circumstances. Long-term projects must be turned in on the scheduled date. For every day late thereafter, their highest possible grade will be a 70. Late daily assignments can be turned in for a possible grade of a 70 until the summative test on that unit. Classroom assignments will be posted on ItsLearning. <https://www.forsyth.itslearning.com>

### **Grading Calculations:**

Course Average = 50% (1<sup>ST</sup> Sem. Course Work) + 50% (2<sup>ND</sup> Sem. Course Work)

1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> Semester Course Work = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

Concept of formative assessment: <http://pareonline.net/getvn.asp?v=8&n=9>

**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.*