

9th Grade Science – Physical Science Syllabus

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Welcome to physical science!

Course Description: This course will be divided into two sections: one semester of chemical reactions, and one semester of basic physics. Students should gain a basic understanding of introductory chemistry including: the periodic table, atomic theory, acids and bases, and chemical bonding. Students should also gain a basic understanding of physics to include: Newton's laws, motion of objects, gravity, projectiles, momentum, energy, etc. This course will have many hands-on learning opportunities for students as we learn how the world around us works.

Course Objectives: The objectives of this course are to leave with a basic understanding of chemistry and physics, as described above.

Quizzes and Tests: Students will have the opportunity to show what they are learning in a variety of ways. Depending on the length of the unit, students will participate in 3 to 5 quizzes as well as the end of the unit test. The purpose of the quizzes is to allow and encourage students to retain smaller amounts of information throughout the unit. With the amount of information taught, it is too much to retain in one night and be successful. I want all of my students to feel confident inside and outside the classroom. Students will be able to retake most tests and quizzes within a week of the test/quiz being returned to the student. Retakes must be completed before/after school and will receive a maximum score of 70%.

Grading: Points will be assigned to each assignment, laboratory, project, and test. Grades will be based on the percentage of points earned out of points possible. Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

Percentage (%)	Grade
96-100	A
90-95	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59 and below	F

Late Work: Late assignments will earn half credit. **Late work will not be accepted once the answers have been shared with students.** If time is used wisely, students will typically be provided with enough time to finish assignments during class. Their daily homework will include studying for quizzes and tests, and part of the chapter review. Please ask your student to show you the weekly agenda on Google Classroom to see what is due the next day.

Absences: Our daily agenda is added to a weekly post on Google Classroom. This is the first place students should look to see what they missed. **It is the student's responsibility to see me before or after school to ask questions and/or collect papers.** In the case of an absence, the handbook policy will be followed. Students will be given **two days** to make up late work for each day that is missed. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain assignments prior to absence for a school activity or other planned event.

Please ask for extra help when you need it. I will be available before and after school for assistance (7:45-3:30). I am also happy to come in earlier or stay later if you let me know beforehand.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be respectful to yourself and others.
2. Be respectful of school property and supplies.
3. Supplies are not to be touched until given permission by the teacher.
4. Be on time and prepared for class.
5. Follow the directions of the teacher the first time they are given.

Rules from the student handbook will also be followed. In addition, several laboratory safety rules will apply. Laboratory safety will be discussed and students will sign a lab safety contract and pass a lab safety quiz (100%) before conducting experiments.

Other Items of Interest:

1. Please take care of personal errands **BEFORE** class begins (restroom, locker, office, drink, etc.) We will start every day with a bell ringer (a question and/or task of the day).
2. Only **bottled water** is allowed in the science room. No food, drink, gum, or candy.
3. Remain in your seats when the bell rings until I dismiss the class
4. If I cannot read your work, it will not be graded
5. Many activities/labs involve working in groups and cannot be done individually. Class participation, cooperativeness, and having a positive attitude will help you in succeeding this year in science class. Be involved and have an awesome year!
6. You will need your charged Chromebook, science binder, and writing utensil for class **every day**. If your science binder is lost, it will need to be recreated.

Communications:

With students: The teacher will visit with students personally regarding positive accomplishments or areas of concern.

With parents: The teacher will primarily send e-mails to parents to report on positive accomplishments and areas of concern. Phone calls, letters, and meetings with parents may be necessary depending on the situation(s) being addressed.

Please feel free to contact me by phone during my plan hour (2:30-3:15 PM) or anytime by e-mail

I look forward to a great year!

I/We have read and understand the information outlined in the syllabus.

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent email _____ Parent phone _____

Supplies needed for Science Class:

- 1 inch binder (you may use your binder from last year if it is still in decent shape)
- loose leaf paper OR 5 subject notebook. (Notebook may NOT be used for any other class.)
- colored pencils
- pencils and pens
- optional: ear buds or headphones

I look forward to a great year!