



Tecumseh High School  
**PHYSICAL GEOLOGY**  
Syllabus 2012-13

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**Instructor:** Mr. Holbrook  
**Room:** C220

**School phone:** (937) 845-4500  
**Email:** mark.holbrook@tecumsehlisd.com

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#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Welcome to Physical Geology! Physical Geology is designed to be a broad overview of the many different fields and disciplines of science. Course content is chosen based on what is necessary to meet the **Ohio Academic Standards** and what will better prepare you for other science classes in the future. Three major class goals are:

1. To develop problem-solving skills and become a better learner.
2. To gain a knowledge of the many different disciplines of science, particularly physical science.
3. To gain knowledge of how science is currently being used in the real world.

#### **COURSE TEXT:**

Wyssession, Frank and Yancopoulos. (2004). Physical Science: Concepts in Action. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Texts will be kept in the classroom. You are more than welcome to "sign out" a book to study or complete homework. By signing out the book you are responsible for the books condition until it is returned to me so that I may sign it back in.

#### **RECOMMENDED CLASSROOM MATERIAL:**

- Calculator
- Binder or Folder
- Paper
- Pencil or Pen

**NOTE:** Other materials may be required or recommended throughout the course of the year. Do not expect the teacher/school to provide these materials.

#### **WEBSITE:**

Thought out the year I will be posting each section and the review sections on the Tecumseh Local Schools website. To access the website for this class, please follow these instructions:

- 1.) (<http://www.tecumseh.k12.oh.us/>).
- 2.) Select "Tecumseh High School" shown on the left side of the screen
- 3.) Select "THS Teacher Web Pages" from the selection on the left hand side.
- 4.) Find the science department and select "Mr. Holbrook"

## **LAB FEE:**

There will be a lab fee for this course. Please check with the Tecumseh Local School District School for the cost.

## **POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS**

***I do not compete with other teacher's. I expect my rules below to be followed, even if other teachers within the building allow different behaviors.***

## **THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

- Be ready to work as soon as the tardy bell rings to answer the "Question of the Day"
- Students are expected to respect me, your classmates, yourselves, the classroom and the materials that you will use.
- Listen carefully and pay attention when I am talking.
- Listen to classmates when they are talking.
- Follow all lab instructions with extreme care.
- No Whining
- There will be no sleeping in class. If your head is down or if your eyes are closed, you are sleeping. One warning will be given. Consequences will follow.
- Remain seated until dismissed by the teacher.
- If you are working on other subjects that is not Physical Geology, I will take and keep all work that is not part of this class.
- No Make-up, nail polish, lotions, perfumes, brushes/combs, mirrors, lipstick, eye shadow, nail clippers/files, etc. are to be used during this class. Pretty yourself before or after class. If any of these items are out during class, those items will be confiscated and turned into the main office.
- Remember that YOU are the only one responsible for your actions and that all school rules apply at all times.

## **CLASSROOM POLICIES and PROCEDURES**

### **Quizzes:**

Quizzes are mostly multiple-choice. You will have a quiz at the end of each unit. Quizzes and tests are written from information given in study guides, notes, handouts, and labs primarily. If you keep an organized and complete notebook you will have a better chance of being successful in this course. (Never throw anything away unless I tell you to do so.)

### **Homework Policy:**

Homework is not designed to boost your grade!!!! That is not its purpose. Homework is used to help a student understand the material. Mr. Holbrook uses the homework to help guide you to improve your understanding.

1. Half credit will be given for late homework.
2. After one week, you will receive a zero for missed homework.
3. Homework is graded on a regular basis.
4. Labs are collected and graded with more scrutiny.

### **Make-up Work:**

If you miss a day a school it is your job to make up that work. I will not spend my time coming to you and telling you what you have missing. Notes will need to be copied from a friend in the class.

Tests/Quizzes may be made up before or after school or during lunch or a study hall. Class time in my class or another teacher's class will not be used.

### **Cheating:**

Cheating shows a total lack of respect for yourself and the people around you. Whenever you present material that is not your own original work, you are cheating. If you wonder if something might be cheating, it probably is. **Don't do it!** Although I will evaluate each situation that may arise, at a minimum, expect a grade of ZERO for the assignment/exam for all parties found to be participating in the cheating and a call to your parents and the administration will be notified. For certain assignments, it is ok to work together, just make sure your answers are put into your own words or solved using your own style.

### **Labs:**

Lab groups will be assigned the day of the lab. Your lab partner(s) will change from lab to lab. You will be given participation for each lab performed.

### **Hall Passes/ Bathroom:**

You may leave my classroom **seven** times per quarter. You **MUST** use your agenda book to leave the classroom. You will fill out where you're are going and the time you are leaving and I will sign my name.

### **QOD (Question of the Day) Procedure:**

1. Bell Rings.
2. Sit Down quietly.
3. Finish the QOD quietly.
4. Have yesterday's homework available for grading.
5. Wait for Mr. Holbrook to finish grading homework quietly.

### **Tardies:**

You are allowed one tardy a week. This will count against one of your seven hall passes. If you are tardy a 2<sup>nd</sup> time during that same week; you will receive detention.

### **ALC:**

If you are in ALC and miss class time, it is your responsibility to get the notes from Mr. Holbrook or a fellow classmate for all of the assignments during that time. Any work handed in that is incomplete will be given a zero. If you are in ALC and miss a lab, you will be excused from the lab. NOTE: You will NOT be given more time to complete the assignment.

## **STUDENT EVALUATION**

### **GRADES:**

- There are two ways that you can check your grade during the course of the year. The first is thru progress book. Progress book can be accessed thru the computer via the password given to you from the guidance department. The second way is in the classroom. Mr. Holbrook will post the grades frequently during each quarter up on the board in the class room. If you have any questions about your grade, please come see me.
- A total points system is used to calculate your grade. To calculate your percentage grade, divide your total points earned by the total possible points.
- I believe each student should receive a grade equal to what he/she earns. If everyone in class earns an "A" then everyone will receive an "A". All grades will be determined according to the points you earn as an individual. Assignments will consist of test/exams, quizzes, homework, laboratory, worksheets, and classroom participation.

## GRADING SCALE:

The following grading scale is in accordance with the Tecumseh Local School district policy and will be used in this class:

Grade	Percentage
A+	99-100
A	95-98%
A-	93-94%
B+	91-92%
B	88-90%
B-	86-87%

Grade	Percentage
C+	83-85%
C	80-82%
C-	77-79%
D+	75-76%
D	72-74%
D-	70-71%
F	69 and below

## SEMESTER GRADES:

Physical Geology is a 2-Semester course. The 1<sup>st</sup> semester consists of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester consists of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. There will be an overall grade for each semester and not a yearlong grade. Each student must pass **each semester** or they will be required to repeat that semester course again the following year.

## DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Failure to follow any of the classroom expectations, procedures, policies or rules may result in any of the following consequences:

1. Verbal Warning. You will also be asked to see me after class or wait in the hall. These actions allow the class to CONTINUE to run smoothly
  - ✓ If you meet with me, this will give me and you time to evaluate the situation. It allows you to correct your behavior or explain the situation. After class students can state their case and discuss what took place.
  - ✓ If you are asked to wait in the hall, this means the student has crossed a line that doesn't allow the class to run smoothly while the student is in the classroom. Example: If I ask you to see me after class and you talk back, get angry, loud or belligerent; you will be asked to wait in the hall.
2. Change in seating assignment with the above meetings.
3. 1 Detention
4. 2 Detentions – Call to Parents
5. 3 Detentions - Teacher/ parent (or guardian) conference
6. Referral (to administrators)

**NOTE:** Severe violations, such as fighting, extreme class disruption, defiance, etc. will be referred to the administration immediately for disciplinary action.

7. Failure to show up for a detention will result in an additional 2 detentions.
8. Failure to show up for #7 will result in an office referral.

## FINAL WORDS

- ✓ **ASKING QUESTIONS:** The smartest people I know are not afraid to ask questions in class. So, be smart and ask! It is wise to seek help sooner rather than later, especially if you are struggling with understanding concepts and/or solving problems!
- ✓ If you have any questions, comments or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me before school, between classes, or after school. I will return all phone calls or respond to all e-mails within a 1-2 day time frame (unless it is a weekend). My contact information is listed on the first page.
- ✓ The surest way to achieve success in my classroom is attend regularly and behave appropriately and work hard. I will not pass or fail anyone. I am here to help you in any way I can, but it is up to you to do the work and earn a respectable grade. I look forward to an enjoyable and successful year for us all. Good luck!!!!

## **2012 – 2013 COURSE SYLLABUS:**

Note: This is a tentative schedule of topics. The topics and their order are subject to change.

### **Semester 1**

#### **Quarter 1:**

Unit 0: Getting Started  
Unit 1: Introduction to Science  
Unit 2: Safety, Measurement  
Unit 3: Properties of Matter  
Unit 4: The Atom  
Unit 5: The Periodic Table

#### **Quarter 2:**

Unit 6: The Earth's Interior  
Unit 7: The Earth's Surface  
Unit 8: Weather and Climate  
Unit 9: Space  
Unit 10: The Sun and Stars

***1<sup>st</sup> Semester Exam: 100 points***

### **Semester 2**

#### **Quarter 3:**

Unit 11: Motion  
Unit 12: Forces  
Unit 13: Work and Power  
Unit 14: Energy  
OGT Review

#### **Quarter 4:**

Unit 15: Alternative Energy  
Unit 16: Thermal Energy  
Unit 17: Waves  
Unit 18: Forces in Fluids  
Unit 19: End of the Year Project

***2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Exam: 100 Points***

**SIGNATURE'S:**

**(Please return by Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> 2012)**

I have read and understand the guidelines in the Physical Geology syllabus. Please sign, detach and return this page. Retain the syllabus in your notebook for future reference.

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Student Name (print)

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Student Signature

Date

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Parents/Guardian (print)

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Parents/Guardian Signature

Date

**I prefer to be contacted by (fill in all that apply):**

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_