

Earth Science: The Physical Setting Course Syllabus



Instructors: Mr. Chlystun
Room: 508
Extra Help: Tuesdays
Test Day: Wednesdays
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Course Description

Earth Science is a broad scientific subject that covers three main sciences: Astronomy, Meteorology, and Geology. The beauty and challenge of Earth Science lies in the interconnectedness of the field. It is not a study of isolated facts, but rather the development of a deep understanding, and appreciation of, the links between Earth phenomena, processes, and systems. The key to success is through understanding and the ability to demonstrate what you understand. The course will tackle this challenge through lecture, discussion, laboratory experiments, independent projects, and group learning. I hope the school year will shed light on the many complexities and mysteries of Earth and Space.

Textbook

Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. Earth Science: The Physical Setting.
Austin, TX. 2006.

Recommended Review Books:

- Earth Science -- The Physical Setting (Barron's Regents Exams and Answers-Red)
- Let's Review: Earth Science (Barron's Review Course Series-Blue)

Required Supplies: 3 ring binder, paper, dividers (3), pens, pencils, four function calculator, Earth Science Reference Table (provided by instructor).

Course Outline by Topic:

Measurement and Change	Moisture and Climate
Measuring Planet Earth	Weathering and Erosion
Earth's Place in the Universe	Depositional Processes
Motions in Earth's Sky	Rocks and Minerals
Energy in Earth Processes	Earth's Dynamic Crust and Interior
Insolation and Seasons	Interpreting Earth's History
Earth's Weather	Landscape Development

Grading: This course will have a grade administered at the end of each of the four quarters. In addition to the four quarters, the Regents Examination for Earth Science will be included in your final average as a fifth marking period. Calculation of Quarterly grades will be as follows:

Tests and Quizzes:	60%
Laboratory Assignments:	25%
Homework and Class Participation:	15%

Tests and Quizzes: A unit test will be given after each topic is complete. A quiz may be given in between topics in addition to the unit test with sufficient prior notice. Tests will be on Wednesdays and make-up tests will be given no later than the Tuesday after the missed test date.

- All tests and quizzes contain NYS Earth Science Regents questions.
- Tests always contain a combination of multiple choice and short answers. Tests range from 30 to 35 questions. Tests are one full period in duration.
- Quizzes usually range from 10 to 20 questions. Quizzes are one half period in duration.

Midterm: We will have a mid-term during mid-term week of January 2018. The format will be modeled after the Regents Exam in June, the cumulative mid-term has 50 multiple choice questions and 25 free-response.

Lab Reports: The State of New York requires a minimum of 30 laboratory hours in order to receive Regents credit. Our class will far exceed these minimum hours, but it is imperative to complete and hand-in labs when they are due. Lab assignments will be evaluated out of 10.

** Labs handed in late cannot receive credit higher than 8/10 and cannot be made up for a higher grade. Exceptions are made for legal absences or any other extenuating circumstance.

Homework and Class Participation: If you do all of your homework, participate in class and are generally well prepared, a 100% will be calculated in as 15% of your grade. However, if you fail to complete homework assignments, participate in class and are unprepared you could receive no credit for this portion of your grade.