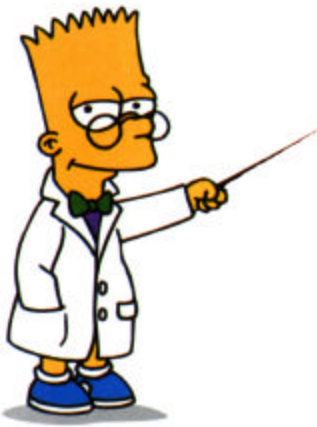


Earth Science
2004 - 2005
Lecture and Lab



Mr. Richard M. Chlystun
Department of Science

Herricks High School

Welcome to Earth Science

What is Earth Science?

Earth Science is the study of our planet and its place in the universe. The earth is our home and I feel that it is very important to have a thorough understanding of the processes that make the earth work. Many of the concepts that are taught in this course will enable your child to make sense of science issues that face us every day.

Topics That Will be Discussed This Year

The course outline for this class is as follows:

Topic 1	Observation & Measurement	Topic 8	Climate
Topic 2	Measuring the Earth	Topic 9	Erosional Processes
Topic 3	Earth's Motions	Topic 10	Depositional Processes
Topic 4	Earth's Place in the Universe	Topic 11	Rocks and Minerals
Topic 5	Energy in Earth's Processes	Topic 12	Earth's Dynamic Crust
Topic 6	Insolation and Earth's Surface	Topic 13	Interpreting Geologic History
Topic 7	Weather	Topic 14	Landscape Development and Awareness

What about the Regents?

The Earth Science Regents Examination in June will be the final test for this course. The Regents Examination is a statewide test that all High School Earth Science students take at the conclusion of their Earth Science course. In order to get credit for this course your child must pass the Regents Examination in Earth Science.

In addition to the Regents Examination being the final exam for this course, it will also be worth 20% of your child's final grade in this course.

Classroom Policies

This course is arguably the most difficult science course that your child will take in high school. In order to ensure that every student in this class has an academically successful year in this course, I expect the following:

- Your son or daughter is expected to be in class every day. If they are absent, it is their responsibility to determine what they have missed (Notes, Homework's, Labs and Tests).
- Your son or daughter is also expected to arrive to class on time and ready to work (3 lateness's = 1 detention, as per school rules).
- When in class, I expect your child to behave as a responsible and respectful member of the class.

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, Class Participation, Behavior:	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. Tests will be on Wednesdays and make-up tests will be given no later than the Tuesday after the missed test date.

Labs: All labs must be completed in order to pass this course. If you do not complete your labs you will not qualify to take the regents examine. Labs will be graded as follows:

S+	=	Outstanding Completion of Lab
S	=	Satisfactory Completion of Lab
S-	=	Poorly Completed Lab
INC	=	Incomplete Lab

Late labs will be penalized and will not be eligible for an “S+” grade. If you hand in a lab after its due date then the highest grade you can possibly receive will be an “S”.

Written Assignments: Written assignments may be assigned each quarter to enhance your knowledge of the subject matter and to also enhance your grades. Details on these assignments will follow as the quarter progresses. Late written assignments will be penalized.

Homework and Class Participation: If a student does all homework, participates in class and is generally well prepared, a 100% will be calculated in as 15% of their grade. However, if a student fails to complete homework assignments, participate in class and is unprepared they could receive no credit for this portion of their grade.



Extra Help: Extra help will be given once a week on Tuesdays. In addition to this I am available many other times during the week. Your son or daughter can always schedule a meeting with me at a mutually convenient time.

The Parent/ Teacher Team

I feel that education is a joint task shared by Teachers, student and parents. I will do the best that I can to educate you child and help him or her mature as a high school student. In addition, I feel that as a parent, you can help your child be a better student as well. You can do your part by providing your child with a place to work at home and the time to do that work.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at any time. I will do my best to keep you up to date with your child's status in class. I can be reached through the following numbers:

Main Office	248-3100
Science Office	248-3162
Guidance Office	248-3150

I think that Earth Science is a great course. I hope that by the end of the year your child will feel a little of the excitement of discovery here.

