

Introductory Earth Science

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CENTRAL LINN HIGH SCHOOL
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Earth Science is the branch of science dealing with the constitution of the Earth and its atmosphere. It encompasses all sciences which focus on the Earth, and uses physics, geology, geography, meteorology, astronomy, and biology. This course will focus on the totality of the Earth system, how energy drives convection in our atmosphere and oceans, which in turn drives global climate conditions and local weather patterns.

COURSE MATERIAL:

This course MAY include the following, but there is no guarantee that we will cover all units over the course of the year. Possible topics are:

- Plate Tectonics
- Geological Processes
- Weather Patterns
- Seasonal Patterns
- Climate
- Volcanoes
- Erosion and Deposition
- Oceanology
- Astronomy
- Characteristics of Earth and its Atmosphere
- Earth's Place in the Solar System

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Each student will be expected to provide an area for all papers in a binder or folder. It will be used for storing notes, handouts, assignments, and other important information. Keeping all papers will aid in grading should an error occur. **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN PAPERS!**

Scientific calculators are also highly recommended. There are a few available as part of a classroom set, but as the school has adopted a zero tolerance phone policy, students will no longer be able to use personal electronic devices.

A textbook will be provided to each student either in physical or digital format.

REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS:

The only requirement for participation in this course is a great attitude and a willingness to try new things.

Each student is expected to:

- Come to class prepared and ready to learn.
- Be in their seat and working on the daily warm-up question when the bell rings.
- Create a positive and supportive environment by:
 - respecting themselves, others, and the teacher.
 - paying attention when another person is speaking.
 - raising their hand to speak.
- Follow directions carefully and as instructed.
- Stay on task and do their very best!

We will be performing labs. Immature behavior will not be tolerated and will result in immediate removal from the lab – no exceptions.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

As an instructor, I use many assignment, tests and labs to evaluate students but much of their grade is determined through demonstration of meeting learning standards. This makes attendance very important. Students who are expecting to be gone for large portions of class instruction should see the instructor prior to being absent. In the event that a student accumulates 10 unexcused absences, they may be denied partial credit. Should a student accumulate 15 or more unexcused absences, they may be denied credit for the course.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

All classes at Central Linn High School will be assessed according to a 100% scale and weighted **90% for assessments** and **10% for practices**. Practice for assessments may include, but is not limited to: classroom assignments, homework, spot checks, notes and warm-ups. Assessments may include but are not limited to: summative tests and quizzes, projects, presentations, lab reports, and state samples.

GRADING SCALE:

4= exceeds standard/learning target

3= meets standard/learning target

2= nearly meets standard/learning target

1= does not meet standard/learning target

0= Incomplete, not enough evidence to assess

Z= Assignment/Assessment was no submitted.

In this system there is no "extra credit." In order to display proficiency on a standard or learning target, a student must attain a score of 70% or 3 on the assigned assessment, which is equivalent to a traditional 'C' grade. The traditional 'D' grades will no longer be awarded to student work. If an assessment is below a score of 3, the student will have the opportunity to retake the assessment and get additional support from the classroom teacher or building support services. If all, or most, of the standards are not met with passing scores within a grading period, a student may earn an 'F'. However, if a student is making adequate progress toward proficiency and utilize available resources, students may be assigned an 'incomplete' as decided by the teacher.

SCIENCE STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

The standards that may be included in this course can be found at the link below in a document that specifies the material to be covered:

<https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/standards/science/Pages/Science-Standards.aspx>

LAB GROUPS:

Students may pick lab partners unless otherwise directed by the teacher. If lab groups do not complete tasks as directed, then students may expect to be placed in lab groups as selected by the teacher. If there is a significant issue with a member in the lab group, the student should speak with the teacher directly before lab groups are established. Choosing lab partners is a privilege and therefore may be discontinued at any time. Students who do not make wise decisions during group work or in the lab may lose the privilege of partnering with other students or may be given an alternate assessment.

PINNACLE INTERNET VIEWER (PIV)

The Pinnacle parent portal allows parents/guardians to monitor student grades, attendance, and any assignment information. PIV offers an email notification option which gives you the flexibility to choose which reports or notifications you would like to receive concerning your student's grades. You can also specify how often you would like to receive the notifications. Or you can choose the option to receive an email notification when any grade goes above or below a set value that you determine. To sign up for PIV, contact Lauri Archer (email: lauri.archer@centrallinn.k12.or.us).

CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are not permitted to use any personal type of electronic device (including cell phones) during class time. Students will check their phone into the teacher before class begins and will not be able to respond to texts or calls during class. Any violation of a teacher’s classroom or school rule regarding the use of electronic devices will result in an office referral and may result in the loss of the privilege of having the device on school grounds.

Students are to make arrangements with their parent(s) or guardian(s) to contact the school office when attempting to reach them during the school, except during lunch.

If a school staff member finds it necessary to confiscate a device, parents will be notified promptly and the device will be returned in accordance with school rules after the administrator or designee has consulted with the student’s parent/guardian. **The school is not responsible for lost or stolen electronic devices.**

Please help your student be successful with these expectations by refraining from calling or texting them during class times. If there is an emergency where you must reach your student, please call the front office and a message will be relayed.

(Detach and return to instructor)

INTRODUCTORY EARTH SCIENCE SYLLABUS

By signing below, I acknowledge and understand the expectations set forth and agree to comply to the best of my ability. I also acknowledge that I have read the above information including the portion on cell phones and electronic devices. If I have specific concerns, I agree to contact the teacher.

Student Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date