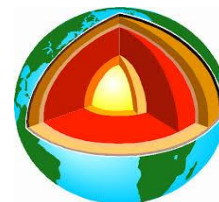




EARTH SYSTEMS SYLLABUS



Mr. Jacob Hinz, Room 511, jhinz@ccboe.com

Welcome to Earth Science

Earth Science, also known as the geosciences, is an all-embracing term for the sciences related to planet Earth. Our topics will include Astronomy (study of outer space), Geology (study of rocks, weathering and erosion, earthquakes, volcanoes, and plate tectonics), Paleontology (the history of the Earth), Meteorology (study of the atmosphere, climate, climate change, and human impact on the Earth), and Oceanography (study of the oceans and water systems). This course will use hands-on experimentation, activities, and direct instruction. You will be enabled to learn the 'how' and 'why', not just the 'what' of science. You will learn how Earth Science is relevant in your everyday life; you must provide the willingness to learn.

COURSE OUTLINE

Space The Universe/EM Spectrum Stellar Evolution and Life Cycle of a Star The Sun Planetary Evolution and Formation of Earth	Earth Systems Minerals and Earth's Layers Continental Drift/Sea Floor Spreading Theory of Plate Tectonics Earthquakes Volcanoes Rocks and the Rock Cycle
Effects of Water Hydrosphere and the Water Cycle Weathering Erosion and Deposition Watersheds and Streams	Weather, Climate and Human Sustainability Atmosphere Weather and Climate Fossil Fuels and the Carbon Cycle Climate change and Human Impact Energy Sources

MATERIALS

Textbook: Discovery Education Techbook: Earth and Space Science (for use with NGSS)

Required: Bring to class **every day**: Pencil and/or pen (dark blue or black ink preferred)

Optional, but useful: Lined paper (10-20 sheets), Colored pens/pencils, Highlighters, Graph paper

SYNERGY

Parents **and** students are **strongly** encouraged to use Synergy StudentVue and ParentVue applications to follow student grades and frequently check on assignments. Log-on information can be obtained at the media center or guidance. Synergy contains the student's grades as well as class website, calendars and other help information.

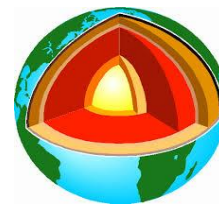
Personal Digital Devices

As a one-to-one technology school, each student has access to all necessary digital content via school-provided computers. Therefore, there is little to no need for personal digital devices in the classroom. All electronic devices must be kept out of sight at all times. Occasionally, we will allow students the opportunity to use their own device to complete various web-related activities or to use the digital capabilities of the device (e.g., calculator) in class.

Students may use their device only as instructed by the teacher or as part of legally documented educational accommodations (and **ONLY** when another adequate option is not available.) Students will not be available to answer parent/guardian SMS texts, messages, video or phone calls. All student and parent contact, including student emergencies, will be made through the front office.



EARTH SYSTEMS SYLLABUS



RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

- Each student will always follow all Thomas Stone and Charles County rules and regulations.
- Each student will attend class daily with all the required materials.
- Each student will arrive on time and ready to learn. "On time" means that the student is seated, computer logged in, and awaiting instruction or beginning any assigned warm-up activity when the bell rings.
- Each student will show respect to classmates as well as to teachers and classroom visitors.
- Each student will keep hands, feet, and objects to themselves.
- Each student will speak at appropriate times, using appropriate voices. For example, whisper during small group discussion, remain silent or raise hand and wait to be called on during direct instruction from the teacher.
- Each student will strive for quality work.
- Any electronic device that is seen or heard will be confiscated and turned in to the grade level administrator along with a referral **except when used for instruction as instructed by the teacher.**
- No food or drink, other than water, is permitted in the classroom without teacher permission.
- Students are expected to maintain a clean work area and will be responsible for cleaning up materials at the end of each lab or class session.
- Students are expected to register and monitor assignments and grades via Synergy. Access can be obtained from the media specialist or office.

GRADING POLICY

Grading Scale

Grades will be assigned according to the following percentages:

Grade Balancing

Grades are points-based and will be equally balanced between two weighted categories:

Process: 50% of overall grade

Process grades are the "effort" part of a student's overall grade. Examples of process grades are readings, videos, websites, worksheets, activities and other tasks primarily given as in-class assignments and will vary in length and complexity. These are designed to introduce and/or reinforce ideas related to the unit topic.

In addition, homework will be assigned regularly, and may consist of work not completed in class or supplemental readings, activities, and/ or questions related to either a review of the day's material or to be completed in preparation for the next lesson.

Product: 50% of overall grade

Product grades are the "mastery" part of a student's overall grade. Examples of product grades are assessments, quizzes, tests, exams, labs, projects, writing assignments.

Tests and exams are larger individual assessments designed to see how well you are putting the parts of the unit together with the course as a whole. You may be asked about things in the unit you just finished and about things in previous units.

Assessments and quizzes will be given frequently. Most quizzes will be only a few questions in length and will have, as their contents, material covered in the previous few classes.

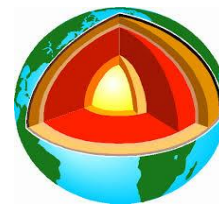
Projects are long term and may consist of several days to a week or two of work.

You will get two types of lab work. Sometimes you will be told exactly what to do in a lab. Other times you will be given an objective and you will be asked to design and carry out the experiment. This is so you can learn to think about, analyze, and apply knowledge. At the end of all labs will be a written, comprehensive lab report.

A=90-100%
B=80-89%
C=70-79%
D=60-69%
F< 60%



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PRE AND POST ASSESSMENTS AND TESTS

Prior to each unit of study, students will take a pre-requisite assessment to determine their level of prior learning and mastery. This will be the same or similar assessment given at the end of the unit to determine the level of knowledge growth.

In some school years, students will be required by Charles County Public Schools to take Earth Systems Pre-Test and Post-Tests or Common Assessments that may be factored into the student grade as 10% of the product grade for the associated quarter (50% Process, 40% Product, 10% County Assessment). These tests are to gauge student growth in the subject.

MAKE-UP/LATE ASSIGNMENTS

- All assignments will be given a due date and time when they are assigned.
- Work is considered on time when submitted to the teacher prior to or on the due date.
- Electronic assignments must be submitted by the date and time indicated.
- Turning in late work is not allowed. However, in the case of unforeseen circumstances which might result in a student's absence, a student will have three days to make up the work upon his/her return to school if it is a lawful absence. Students that foresee a challenge in completing an assignment on time may request an extension to the assignment due date. This request must have a valid reason and be coordinated with the teacher prior to noon on the original due date. Each request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and not all requests may be granted. No credit will be given if the assignment is received after the extended due date.
- The attendance policy states any student who has two or more unlawful absences during a marking period, with appropriate parental notification, may receive a grade no higher than 59% for the marking period. Students who are unlawfully absent from school may be denied make-up work for the unexcused absences.
- If a student is assigned to an In-School Intervention (ISI), assignments are due as if you were in class. Your work will be provided through the ISI teacher.
- Students will be allowed to make up all work given during class for an off-campus suspension. Due dates will be given on the same day the work is sent home and no additional extensions will be granted.

IF YOU ARE ABSENT, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND OUT WHAT ASSIGNMENTS YOU MISSED.

EXTRA HELP

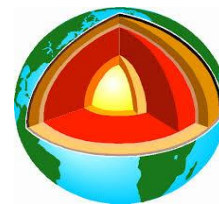
Please come to me early if you do not understand the material. DO NOT wait until after deadlines have passed or the end of the quarter or semester to ask for help. I want *EVERY ONE* of you to succeed and I will do my best to provide the assistance and tools you need.

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit will be offered from time to time (but not very often) to those students who have no missing assignments at the time the extra credit is offered. All extra credit will have due dates that will be posted with the assignment and no extensions will be granted. They will pertain to what we cover in class.



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OPTIONAL ENRICHMENT PROJECT (SCIENCE FAIR)

Participating students need to begin their projects within the allotted timelines provided by the teacher. Credit is awarded based on the quality of tasks submitted by the specific due date for each task. All students who choose to submit a Science Fair project as an enrichment assignment will have up to 10% extra credit added to the 3rd quarter grade. The extra credit is dependent upon meeting all project requirements and the quality of the project.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (CHEATING)

Cheating on all assignments, tests, etc. is forbidden. If you cheat on an assignment, you will be given a grade of zero (F) for that assignment. This includes those that provide answers as well as those that copy answers from others or the internet. Representing anyone else's work as the student's own is considered cheating.

JAMES E. RICHMOND SCIENCE CENTER FIELD TRIPS

As part of this course, students are expected to participate in at least one virtual or in-person field trip to the James E. Richmond Science Center during the school year. Details will be given in advance of the actual field trip date, and content will coincide with concepts taught during the school year.

The science center uses various technologies to project audio-visual lessons that support the CCPS curriculum. Please be aware that these types of visual effects could trigger certain types of seizure disorders. Photosensitive Epilepsy (PSE) is a form of epilepsy in which seizures are triggered by visual stimuli that form patterns in time or space, such as flashing lights, bold, regular patterns, or regular moving patterns.

10 point Assignment - Student (5pts) and at least one Parent/Guardian (5pts) must individually email the teacher, from Synergy Mail, stating that they have read syllabus, understand the expectations, and understand that they are expected to activate an account on, and monitor grades and assignments using, Synergy.