

Syllabus for Earth Science Academic Year 2017-2018

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Course Description

In this course I hope to cultivate a love of God and his creation by providing the opportunity for each student to encounter and make observations of subjects within meteorology, astronomy, hydrology, and geology (or a model of those subjects when necessary), to form ideas based on those observations, to compare and contrast those ideas with the ideas of masters, and finally to share their ideas with others both inside and outside the class.

Course Goals

It is my desire that each student finish the year with an increased scientific vocabulary and the ability to use it, an increased understanding of the natural world, an increased ability to think creatively *and* scientifically, and an increased knowledge of the relationship between General Revelation and Special Revelation.

Texts: No text will be used. Selected readings and articles will be distributed as needed to supplement classroom discussions and labs. These readings will be collected into a 3-ring binder and used for reference during the year.

Grading Rubric

Daily Grade: – Each student will have an opportunity to earn 2 points per day by arriving to class on time, being prepared for and active in the day's activities, and having their binder up to date.

Vocabulary Quiz: – Vocabulary words will be given and defined as a part of the weekly discussions. There may be up to 15 new terms each week that the students are responsible to know. Vocabulary quizzes will be administered early in the week and will be worth 20 points.

Content Quiz: - At the end of each week a 3-5 question quiz will be given to check understanding of that week's material. These content quizzes are worth up to 20 points.

Notebooks: – Notebooks will be checked routinely and at the end of each quarter. They will be graded on content and form. The notebook will have our daily classwork and homework activities. Some notebook assignments will be graded for content, others for completion.

Tests: – There will be two major tests per quarter. These tests are worth 100 points and are cumulative for that quarter.

Mid-term and Final: – A major cumulative exam will be given at the end of each semester. These are cumulative for the semester and worth 100 points each. They account for a percentage of the semester grade while not affecting the quarterly grades.

Absences

Students who are absent are responsible for obtaining from a classmate the notes and assignments they missed. Once they have reviewed these they may come to me for clarification if necessary.

Tutoring/Help

I will be available during the scheduled tutorial times or, often, before school.

Late Work

All late work is subject to a penalty of 11% per day. Work that is turned in late due to an absence has a 2 day grace period per day of absence before a penalty is assessed.

Academic Integrity

Though the nature of the inquiry based education in this class is one of group labs and discussions, it is expected that when each student hands in work with their name on it they can confidently say that the work is theirs. True education occurs when a student engages the material, striving for mastery and not just a good grade.

Field Trips

We will have one major field trip in the Spring to Lacon Quarry to do some fossil hunting. Details will be provided after Christmas break.

Dates Important to Remember

First Quarter Tests	8/31	10/5	
Second Quarter Tests	11/2	12/7	Midterm TBA
Third Quarter Tests	2/1	3/1	
Fourth Quarter Tests	4/5	5/10	Final TBA

Outline for the Year

<u>Week #</u>	<u>Q1 Meteorology</u>	<u>Q2 Astronomy</u>	<u>Q3 Hydrology</u>	<u>Q4 Geology</u>
W1	Atmosphere	Seasons	Water cycle	Minerals
W2	Heating	The Moon	Tides	Minerals
W3	Pressure	The Sun	Coastlines	Igneous
W4	Humidity	Planets	Rivers	Volcanoes
W5	Fronts	Space Rocks	Glaciers	Metamorphic
W6	Fronts	Stars	Flooding	Sedimentary
W7	T-storms	Galaxies	Groundwater	Fossils
W8	Cyclones	Origins	Sinkholes	Plate Tectonics
W9	Global Patterns		Caves	Origins

Earth Science Syllabus 2017-2018

I have read this syllabus and understand the expectations and structure of the class. I have also noted the due dates listed in my planner.

Student Name: (Print)

Student Signature:

I have read this syllabus with my son/daughter and will help them as appropriate and necessary to fulfill the outlined requirements.

Parent Name: (Print)

Parent Signature:
