

Physical Science 2008–2009

Syllabus and Class Procedures – Semesters 1 & 2

Mr. Su

Phone (909) 477-6900 x2413 email: Lawrence_Su@cjuhsd.k12.ca.us

Physical Science is the first segment of a 2 year college prep science program at Los Osos High School. This course is a standards based lab class which covers the physical foundations of Earth Science. Specific topics include basic concepts in astronomy, chemistry, geology, meteorology and physics. Instruction is aligned with to the California State Content Standards for Earth Science on the State Testing and Reporting (STAR) program. The LOHS Expected School wide Learning Results (The Grizzly RITE) will be stressed in lessons and expected in classroom conduct.

General Course Outline

Semester 1: Dynamic Earth Processes, California Geology, Hazards and Resources

Semester 2: Atmosphere and Meteorology, Physical Science, and Astronomy

The RITE Procedures for Optimal Learning Conditions

Respectful and Responsible Citizens

All participants in the learning process deserve respect. Each person in the room will be treated respectfully. You are expected to treat all others with appropriate manners and courtesy. Be a responsible member of the learning community by contributing regularly and participating fully.

Independent Thinkers and Problem Solvers

Each person bears personal responsibility for his/her highest level of learning possible. You should come to class ready to question, problem solve, and think on your own. You need to stay focused on the assigned activities. It is important to seek help whenever you do not understand a concept.

Technologically and Academically Proficient

Your grades are a reflection of your proficiency in science and your ability to recall and evaluate information. You will be expected to establish the good habit of completing high quality work. When you complete assignments as directed, you will demonstrate your academic proficiency.

Effective Communicator

Your written work is one way to illustrate what you have learned about the scientific concepts we study. The work in your notebook as well as the results on your tests becomes physical evidence of your depth of understanding of each topic. Well written responses and reflections communicate higher levels of thinking and learning.

Expected Student Conduct

- Follow **all** school and district policies outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook (i.e.: Dress code, cheating, tardiness, truancy and so forth)
- Personal necessities (restroom, drinks, etc) will be managed **before/after** class.
- Common courtesy/good manners will be required in **all** communications.
- Students will be on time and turn in work on time.

Specific Grading and Assignment Policy

- Class work and reading will be assigned each day. There will be one or more lab activities for each unit. Homework will be assigned most days. Sometimes homework will take the form of completing assignments begun in class. There will be periodic pop quizzes and chapter tests for each unit.
- The science notebook will be the place where most of your work is kept. Assignments will be checked daily for completion
- Be sure to keep things neat and clean in your notebook. Neatness counts!
- Accurate lecture notes are an important part of the learning process. Notes are required and graded. Part of the note taking process includes daily review and reflection of the notes.
- Lab duties will be shared equally among members of your table group. Each student is responsible for individual lab reports: typed or hand written in blue or black ink.
- Absent work will be due within the same number of days of the excused absence. Check with a classmate or the calendar poster for due dates and assignments. Make-ups for missed labs and tests will be negotiated individually. You will be expected to complete all absent work prior to the end of each unit.
- Unit work turned in after the completed unit due date will not be accepted for any reason other than an excused absence on the unit due date.
- Approximate Grade Scale: 100-90 = A, 89-80 = B, 79-70 = C, 69-60 = D, 59-0 = F
- If you disregard the work policy or due dates, you will earn poor grades.
- The final semester grade is based on the following approximate percentages:
 - 10% Notebook Checks and Class Participation
 - 40% Lab Reports, Class work, Homework (In notebook)
 - 40% Assessments (Unit Tests, Quizzes and Projects)
 - 10% Final Exam (comprehensive each semester)

Consequences for Disregard of Class Procedures/Policies

Classroom misconduct will first earn an in-class warning or private discussion. If the situation does not improve, I will contact your parent and you will earn a detention. If further intervention is necessary, the student will be directed (referral, class suspension, etc.) to the dean or counselor with a possible drop from the class.

NOTE

Tardiness is considered a serious classroom disruption. The Los Osos Tardy Policy will be followed. This includes possibly being dropped from class after the 4th tardy so please be on time.

Cheating in any form (copying any work or test answers or plagiarism) will not be tolerated. All students involved will earn a zero score, a parent contact and a referral to the office on the FIRST offense. The student may be dropped and lose all credit for further infractions.

Physical Science Information Page

Directions: After reading the Syllabus and Procedures please fill out the information section of this page and sign at the bottom.

PRINT Full Name _____

Name you would like to be called in Class _____

Contact Information

PRINT Parent Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____ Hours _____

_____ Hours _____

Your email _____

Parent(s) email _____

Student Agreement

I have read the Physical Science Syllabus and Class Procedures. I understand the class rules, assignment policy, and agree to conduct myself accordingly.

Student Signature _____

Parent Agreement

I have read the Physical Science Syllabus and Class Procedures. I understand the class rules and assignment policy.

Parent Signature _____