**Mr. Ofori Earth Science 2016-2017**

**Course Information and Procedures**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This semester course presents the fundamental topics of chemistry, physics, the universe, and other facets of earth science. It is the goal of this course to help you become more efficient in laboratory investigation techniques and problem solving methods, as well as the basic principles of chemistry and physics with their practical importance in our world.

**MATERIALS:** You need for class everyday a pen, pencil, highlighter, map pencils, scissors, planner, 3 ring binder (3”) with one section for Earth Science, 1 - 3 subject Spiral Notebook and loose leaf notebook paper.

Having your own device (cell phone or iPad) with earbuds, is strongly recommended but not required. We will use the advances in technology to maximize our learning.

**RULES of RESPECT:** These are basic but sometimes forgotten.

**I will reflect RESPECT.**

**I will promise to ALWAYS DO MY BEST.**

**I will be a RESPONSIBLE student.**

**I will practice ACTS of KINDNESS.**

**I will display GOOD MANNERS.**

**So, in other words:**

**Be polite.** Always respect yourself, your classmates, your teacher, and school property.

**Be prepared.** Come with appropriate supplies and be ready to learn.

**Be productive.** Participate and get your work done.

**Be positive.** Always see the glass as half full. Nobody likes a “Negative Nancy”.

\*\*\*Food, drink and/or gum are not allowed during labs.

See AMCMS Discipline plan for more information on rules and consequences.

**GRADES:** Grades for each six week and for semester will be calculated as per school policy outlined in your handbook. Your average for each six week period will be based on the following; **Academic Practice 33.3% and Academic Achievement 66.7%.**

**Academic Practice:** This category consists of daily work, homework, labs, and quizzes. Quizzes will count as 2 Academic Practice grades. *On average you can expect anywhere from 6-12 AP grades.*

**Academic Achievement:** This category consists of tests and projects. *On average you can expect 2-3 AA grades a six weeks.*

It is your responsibility to keep track of your returned papers and test grades. DO NOT ask to see your grades during class time. *HAC (Home Access Center) is a great tool for keeping up with your grades and can be accessed by both parents and students.*

**LATE POLICY:**  Late work will be accepted **with penalty** for both Academic Practice and Academic Achievement, as explained in class. I do drop the **lowest** Academic Practice grade (excluding quizzes) each six weeks.

For Academic Practice grades, an assignment turned in one day late will have 15 points deducted; two days late will have 30 points deducted. If the assignment is turned in prior to the Unit test, you will receive the maximum grade of a 50 (which is much better than a zero).

For Academic Achievement grades, 10 points will be deducted each day the project is not turned in for a period of 5 days.

**MAKE-UP WORK:** If you are absent, it is **YOUR** responsibility to get make up work from the crate in my room. The work is due according to policy in the handbook. If you know in advance that you will be missing class for any reason, especially school sponsored activities, ***PLEASE***check with me at least a day in advance.

***RETEST OPTION:*** According to school and department policy, a student who scores below a 75 on an exam may retake an exam for a score no higher than a 75. A student must **request** a retest within 3 days of receiving the exam grade and have one week to take retest. NO retests will be done during the class period.

**TUTORIALS:** If you are struggling or just need extra assistance, it is wise to take advantage of tutorials. My doors are open **Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 7:45-8:15, Wednesday afternoon from 3:50-4:35**, and on test days. If I am not available, you may find another Earth Science Teacher (Booker, Ofori, or Rimlinger.)

**Earth Science Syllabus**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Fall Semester** | **Spring Semester** |
| * **Lab safety/Tools** * **Force and Motion** * **Atoms** * **Periodic Table** * **Chemical Formulas, Equations, & Reactions** * **Newton’s Laws** * **Forces that Change the Earth** | * **Climatic Interactions** * **Earth Cycles** * **Light Years and Theories** * **Characteristics of the Universe** * **Interdependence Among Living Systems** * **Preparation for STAAR Test** |

**\*Scientific Method/Graphs - throughout the year**

|  |
| --- |
| **Ways to Stay Connected and Informed:**   1. Sign up for Remind. Us the this link: <https://www.remind.com/join/mrofori?utm_medium=ios> 2. Feel free to email at any time at [sofori@csisd.org](mailto:sofori@csisd.org) |
| You can find me under the staff directory on the school website: [amcms.csisd.org](http://amcms.csisd.org) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tutorial Hours**  Monday—afternoon after school (7:50am-8:20am)  Tuesdays—Morning (7:50-8:20) and afternoon (3:50pm-4:20pm  **Website**  [myfunscience.weebly.com](http://myfunscience.weebly.com) | **Teacher Wish List:**  (We run out of the following items all of the time- if you are going to the grocery store and have the ability to purchase these items, they are more than appreciated)   * TISSUES * paper towels * pencils (cheap) * map pencils * Lysol surface wipes * hand sanitizer |