

## Course Expectations 2016-2017



# Welcome to Earth Science

Mrs. Crittenden

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**Welcome, I am looking forward to an exciting and interesting year of learning with you! Each of you has the ability to be successful in Earth Science. Our learning experiences will be enriched by the unique skills and qualities that you bring to the classroom. I look forward to sharing a great year of growth and success with you.**

### What will we study?

This is a laboratory-oriented study of Earth Science. Our topics will include: (order may vary)

- |                      |  |                   |
|----------------------|--|-------------------|
| ➤ Earth's Dimensions | ➤ Weathering, Erosion, Deposition, and Landscape | ➤ Earth's Motions |
| ➤ Rocks and Minerals | ➤ Earth's History                                | ➤ Energy          |
| ➤ Dynamic Earth      | ➤ Astronomy                                      | ➤ Weather         |
|                      |  | ➤ Climate         |

### What are the Rules?

- Be **Prompt** You are expected to be in your seat and *working* at the start of class.
- Be **Prepared** Come to class ready to learn with all the materials needed for class.
- Be **Productive** Your success depends on your effort. Your class participation is valued and expected.
- Be **Polite** Respect *all* in the classroom. Please raise your hand to ask a question, answer a question, comment, or to leave your seat.
- Be **Pertinent** Stay on task. Please ask or answers questions or make comments that are on topic.

### What materials do I need to bring to class everyday?

- 2" Three ring binder with 12 dividers
- Regular lined notebook paper
- Blue or Black Pen **and** sharpened #2 pencils
- Nongraphing Calculator
- Earth Science Reference Table - ESRT (one copy will be provided for you)
- Dry erase marker
- Packet of colored pencils
- Highlighter

### Other Materials

- 3 X 5 index cards

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How are Grades determined? 85% Tests and Quizzes  
10% Labs  
5% Homework

- **Midterm and Final exams:** There will be a common Midterm Exam for all Earth Science classes in the district. The midterm is graded separately and included in your first semester grade. The Final Exam is the Regents Earth Science Exam given in June. Your Earth Science Regents score will be reported on your college transcripts.
- **Tests and quizzes:** Tests will be given at the end of the unit. Tests will be announced in advance. Quizzes are given regularly to check for understanding of the material. Quizzes may or may not be announced in advance. Lab quizzes are not announced in advance. It is a good idea to stay current with all the material.
- **Labs:** Labs are important to science and important in this class. NYS requires you to complete 1200 laboratory minutes, which includes successful lab reports, in order to take the Regents exam in June. Most of the lab work will be done in class; however most labs require you to complete the lab report outside of class. Minimum passing lab score is 75%. ***Nonpassing labs must be revised and resubmitted within two weeks.***
- **Homework:** Homework will be assigned to reinforce classroom learning. You are expected to do all homework, however only the Castle Learning assignments are reported in the grade book. *It is expected that you study the day's notes and handouts daily.*
- **Dropped grades:** *Each marking period, one of each will be dropped: lowest quiz grade and lowest lab grade.*
- **Cheating or plagiarism** will result in a grade of zero. Talking during a test (until all tests have been collected) will be considered cheating. Cheating on a lab will result in a permanent zero on the lab.

### What if I miss class or lab?

If you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to make up back work and labs. You will have the NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT as the NUMBER OF MAKE-UP DAYS for class work. For missed tests and quizzes, you will be expected to take the test or quiz as soon as possible upon your return.

Check with me before or after class whenever you are absent. Class starts on time.

**Please do not interrupt once class has started.**

**If a lab is missed**, you are required to make up the lab within 2 weeks to receive a grade. In order to sit for the Regents Exam in June, you **MUST** complete a minimum of 1200 laboratory minutes with successful passing lab reports.

### What about work turned in late?

As a responsible student, it is expected that you complete your assignments on time. If a homework or lab is not complete or turned in during class on the due date, you will be required to stay after school that day to complete the assignment.

### What do I need to know about classroom and lab safety?

We will be working with equipment and chemicals. Care must be taken for a safe classroom and laboratory. Any behavior, which poses as a potential danger to you, the class, or the equipment, will result in your removal from the classroom, and a call home. You are responsible for the replacement cost of any lab materials your actions damage.

### What if I need extra help?

I am available for extra help during the day and after school. Please make arrangements in advance.