M. Whitney
Global Science (B231)

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Classroom Guidelines and Expectations

Course Description:

Global Science is a year-long course that will provide students with the opportunity to discover and expand connections between science, technology, and global societies. This study of natural connections will help students become stewards of the environment, more informed citizens, and better decision-makers. Students will investigate the various aspects of our earth through scientific inquiry, laboratory activities, problem solving, current events, discussions, and projects.

Alignment to Next Generation Science Standards:

This course meets the following NGSS standards: ESS 2A; ESS 2B; ESS 2C; ESS 2D; ESS 2E; ESS 3A; ESS 3B; ESS 3C; ESS 3D; ETS 1B

Standards:

This course is based on the Iowa and DCSD Standards. Here are a few of the DCSD Benchmarks that are included in the course:

1.1 Generate questions to distinguish cause and effect and identify controls and variables in experimental and non-experimental situations
2.4 Show through investigations, how some of the changes on the earth are contributing to changes in the balance of life on the earth, the survival, growth, or extinction of species.
3.2 Explain the conversion of energy and the increase in disorder including the concepts of usable and stored energy, conduction, convection, radiation, the effects of heat and pressure, and energy flow.

Assessments:

Students will be assessed on a variety of work including, but not limited to, tests, quizzes, projects, labs, and homework. For more information on assessment, see ***Grading Plan*** below.

Content to Be Covered:

The following topics and concepts will be covered during the course of the year.

Semester 1: Space, Ecology and Populations, Dynamic Earth

Semester 2: Water and Land, Atmosphere and Weather, Environmental Impact and Energy

Instructional Strategies:

Students will use a variety of strategies in and out of class including individual work, group projects, hands-on labs, research, and assessment.

Resources:

Environmental Science book, published by Holt

Times to Meet with Ms. Whitney:

-Before school
-3rd Hour (located in office between B231 and B233)
-After school

Expectations for Your Success:

Attendance: Attendance is critical in the science classroom due to the regular use of labs. If you miss a lab day, you will need to arrange a time to make the lab up. It is YOUR responsibility to find out what you may have missed while you were absent (assignments, notes).

7 unexcused or 10 total absences can result in your removal from class

Tardies: Every student is expected to be in the classroom when the bell rings. Become familiar with the tardy policy in your student handbook – it will be enforced.

7 tardies can result in your removal from class

Rules:

-All cellphones and music players will remain **out of sight** during class time.
-BRING YOUR LAPTOP TO CLASS. Bring a **fully charged** laptop to class with you every day.
-Food and drink (besides water) will remain out of the classroom.
-**Be respectful**. This class will work best if everyone is an active participant that is willing to share ideas but also listen to others.
-Be careful with school property and follow all laboratory rules. We will work with a variety of instruments that *can* and *will* break or hurt you if you are not careful!
-**CHEATING OF ANY KIND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** If caught cheating, you will receive a zero. Any work copied from another student will result in a zero for both students. Be smart. Don't risk it.
-**Check your language:** this means no swearing or use of derogatory language. You need to remain professional at all times...this includes when speaking in the classroom and when completing lab reports and other assignments
-Do your best work! You will get out of this class what you put into it; make it count.

Materials: **You are responsible for bringing the following to each class:**

1. Assignment Notebook
2. Notebook (paper)
3. Folder/Binder
4. Completed Assignments
5. **PEN/PENCIL**
6. School-Issued Computer

Grading Plan:

Grades will be based upon the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible for the semester. Grades will be based on the following:

Tests and Quizzes: Tests will take place after each major unit (usually after a unit). These will be announced in advance to give enough time for students to prepare. Tests will have the highest point values. Quizzes can be given at the teacher's discretion.

Projects and Labs: Projects and labs will be done throughout the year to help students apply content knowledge to real life situations. Most projects and labs will be done in groups, but each student is required to hand in their **own** write ups unless otherwise noted.

Homework: Homework will be assigned to help students practice concepts and equations learned in class. Homework will be due at the *beginning* of class and there will be time designated during each class period to discuss any questions/concerns that students have.

Late Work: Assignments turned in late will automatically receive a **50%** grade!! You will have until the test date for the unit to turn in late work to Ms. Whitney. If you are absent when homework is given, make sure to check

with the teacher. If you are absent when homework is collected, it is due when you come back (no penalty) to the teacher. If you have concerns about an assignment, let's talk about it.

Final: A final exam will be given at the end of each semester worth approximately 100 points.

***Extra credit opportunities may arise as the year progresses.*

The standard grading scale will be used:

A	93 – 100%	B-	80 – 82%	D+	67 – 69%
A-	90 – 92%	C+	77 – 79%	D	63 – 66%
B+	87 – 89 %	C	73 – 76%	D-	60 - 62%
B	83 – 86%	C-	70 – 72%	F	0 – 59%

Communication Plan:

I will update PowerSchool throughout the week for both parents/guardians and students to check. Student work will be entered at least once a week and updates can be expected on Mondays.
Students are encouraged to openly communicate with me both in the classroom and out.
Any questions from students or parents/guardians can be directed to me in person or via email.

Syllabus and Grading System are subject to change

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s):_____

Parent/Guardian Email(s): _____

_____

_____

By signing this form, you verify that you have read and understand the expectations that you are to uphold when in the science classroom. You also verify that you understand the protocol that will be taken if these rules are not followed.

_____ _____
Student Signature Date

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date