

Parent's Copy of Mr. Acree's Earth Science Syllabus

Teacher's Contact info: Phone: 480-987-5504 Email: dacree@qcsd.org Room: B103 Web Site: www.myrc.org/earth.htm

Internet and Computer Based Textbook:

All students will be provided a login and password to the Internet Earth Science textbook. Web site to the Internet textbook is: www.pearsonsuccessnet.com/snpapp/login/login.jsp If Internet access is not possible, computer base textbook CDs are available. There is a small, limited supply of textbooks available that can be assigned out on a per-case from the bookstore.

Course Materials: 1. Pencils and/or pens 2. **New** 150+ page spiral notebook per semester 3. The school's Student planner
4. Calculator is recommended (the CASIO fx-260SOLAR FRACTION is preferred)

Course Objectives:

The objective of the Earth Science course is to learn and understand the dynamics that make up the Earth to have a better understanding of the Earth's geological history and makeup, what controls and regulates the weather, and the science that have lead to discoveries of the universe.

Course Description:

Earth Science is an in-depth study of geology, meteorology, and astronomy. Each quarter a **Homework Schedule** will be given to students and emailed to parents to provide both student and parent the information, schedules, and due dates for the course work, required reading, homework, and tests for each quarter. The course study includes:

Origin of the Earth	Weather patterns	Structure of the Sun/Stars	Cause of earthquakes
Geochemical cycles	Formation of thunderstorms	The "Big Bang" Theory	Dynamics of wind
Environmental concerns	Lighting	The Planets	Galaxies
Plate tectonics	Formation of the Solar System	History of Astronomy	Volcanism

Grading:

90 - 100 = A **Semester grades** are calculated from the student's test and quiz scores, lab reports, homework, projects, class work, bell work, participation points, and reports. Grades are based on cumulative points per quarter and calculated into the quarter and semester grade by JupiterGrades. There is no rounding of grade.
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
0 - 59 = F First Qtr 40% Grade + Second Qtr 40% Grade + Semester Exam 20% Grade = Semester Grade

Positive Attitude:

A positive attitude towards learning is needed to succeed in high school. The best way to avoid a low grade or failing grade is to focus in class, study, do **all** the work and turn it in on time. Extra credit is rarely offered to my classes and never individually. Bonus points based on performance are rewarded to students that gets an A, (90% or above) on tests or quizzes, or correctly answer Bell Work or pop questions. Bonus points are accumulated and applied at end of each quarter.

Homework and Class Work Policy:

Homework is written on the white board at the front of the class and on the quarter's current **Homework Schedule**. Students are responsible to check and write down the homework assignments, then complete the work, and turn it in on the due date. Homework or class work is due at the beginning of class or when the teacher asks for it. Late or missing Bell Work and homework work will be documented with student's own initials when possible and scored zero. Incomplete homework being done in class will be considered late.

Makeup Work:

It is the responsibility of students to inquire what they have missed in class. Students with an **excused absence** will have the number of days absent, plus one day to make up the assignments. Student **MUST** write **ABSENT** in large, bold letters and the date/s absent at the top of the paper. Otherwise, it will be marked as a late assignment. Students with an **unexcused absence** may not receive credit for missed assignments, class work, quizzes or tests. To turn in makeup work, first log your makeup work on the Makeup Turn In Log Sheet with teacher's signature and place makeup work inside the White Makeup Work Box. Any makeup work **not** logged on the Makeup Log Sheet **without** teacher's signature and **not** placed in the Makeup Work Box will be considered not turned in and graded zero.

Late Work:

Any assignments that are not turned in on due date are given a zero. Students with an excused absence that is late after the time allowance to the makeup work be given a zero. **There is no zero point recovery.**

Movie/Film Policy:

Only preapproved videos of good quality will be shown that follow the curriculum of the Arizona State Standards for Earth Science.

Tests and Quizzes:

Tests and quizzes can be scheduled or unscheduled. It is the responsibility of each student to learn the topics of Earth Science and be ready and be prepared at any time to take a scheduled or unscheduled test or quiz. Study guides may or may not be given for regular class test. Semester final exams will have study guides given in advance. Any teacher's curriculum information given in class can be tested or quizzed on.

Grades:

Assignments completed and turned in on time will receive appropriate credit when graded. Students need to have the discipline to do the best job they can with all of their work. Just getting a "D" to pass shows little effort was applied. Good grades (A or B) are important. The way to get an A or B is to study, pay attention in class, avoid talking, don't goof off, and be willing to work. It is the responsibility of the student to take on an active part of their learning of Earth Science.

At each quarter's four week midpoint, if a student's grade is a low C grade, D or F grade, the student's parents or guardian will receive a **Low C Grade, D or F Quarter Report** and **JupiterGrades Grade Report** informing parents of their student's low Earth Science grade. Seniors who are failing at the quarter's four week midpoint will also receive a **Senior Failing Notice**. At any time parents may receive a phone call from the teacher on their student's negative classroom behavior and conduct, electronic use in the classroom, positive classroom conduct, or to discuss low grades.

Electronic Devices:

Electronic devices used by students such as cell phones, iPods, mp3 players, CD players, ear phones, miniature radios, cameras, and laser pens are a big distraction and are not to be used in class. Students are to silence or turn off, stop use, and put away all electronic devices before class starts by the final bell. Parents, if there is an emergency, please call the school's front Office and they will call me. If the teacher sees any electronic device being used or out on top of the desk and even if turned off, it may be confiscated. Repeated electronic use in class will result in the start of the Referral process. Using a cell phone to tell the time may result in it being confiscated; learn to use the classroom's analog wall clock instead. If a student refuses to turn over their electronic device after teacher sees it, the referral process will begin. Students are responsible to monitor their possessions, all electronic devices are targets for theft, please leave them home! Ask the teacher first before turning off the cell phone in class.

Food and Water in Class:

No food in the classroom at anytime. If a student/s is seen eating in class, teacher will confiscate the food and it is thrown away. If student/s does not relinquish food or non-water products, parents may be called. The classroom is not a cafeteria. Only water in clear, capped, plastic bottles is allowed; no can, glass or open lid containers. Bring or purchase bottled water before class begins and don't ask to get bottle water during class.

Restroom Breaks:

It is the **student's responsibility** to go to the restroom between classes and be in the classroom before the final bell. If late to class, student will go to SWEEP. Any restroom use during class time is under the decision of the teacher. No restroom breaks 10 minutes after class starts and 10 minutes before class ends. Any food or liquid purchased during a restroom break will be confiscated. Cell phones and backpacks are not to be taken to the restroom. Leave with teacher to avoid theft. Any special restroom needs are the student's responsibility between classes. Medical restroom breaks require proper medical documents to be on file with school nurse and will be honored.

Cosmetic Use in Class:

At no time can students apply cosmetics or do any personal beautification during class, this is not beauty school. If it occurs, the cosmetic items may be confiscated, returned at end of class, and if the distraction is repetitive, a phone call will be made to the student's parents.

Assigned Seating:

All students are assigned a seat in class for attendance and for classroom management. If a student is not in their assigned seat, they risk being counted absent from class on that day. It is expected of students to stay in their assigned seats at all times and to ask for permission if they need to move during class. Any student can be moved to a different seat temporarily or permanently at any time under the decision of the teacher. If there is special need to sit up front, that is different and will be taken care of when validated.

Additional Classroom Rules and Guidelines:

1. The school's ID badge must be displayed for review on lanyard or clip when entering class and in class. Remove hats and caps in classroom.
2. Be in your seat when the bell rings and be working on the Bell Work. Check and write down homework assignments or homework changes.
3. At no time are students allowed to use or handle computer/s, overhead, smart board and video projectors and sound equipment.
4. It is the responsibility of the student to bring their science notebook and a pen or pencil to class each day.
5. Be respectful to yourself, your peers, and your teacher and to school property.
6. For Fire Drills, Bus Evacuation Drills and Lock Downs, all students **must** follow procedures and orders given, and are to return back to the classroom so attendance can be retaken after Fire and Bus Evacuation Drills.
7. Keep feet, hands, objects, and comments to yourself; no throwing any objects in class. Put backpacks under your desk, keep aisles clear.
8. Use appropriate language. NO OBSCENITY, DEROGATORY SLANG WORDS, PUT-DOWNS OR CLOWNING. **Be respectful!**
9. Participate and make appropriate contributions to class discussions. Raise your hand to answer or ask appropriate course related questions.
10. Leave no trace of your impact on the classroom. Clean up after yourself.
11. If you believe you are being bullied, picked on or threaten in class, promptly report it to the teacher as soon as it occurs. Do not wait.
12. At no time are students allowed in teacher's desk, closet, cabinets, drawers, phone or work desk unless exclusive permission given.
13. Follow the QCHS Dress Code, if you do not, you will be carded, sent to office, and it will be documented.
14. During a lab, students must follow all lab safety procedures and instructions at all times during the lab. If a student gets involved in horseplay, do unsafe acts, quarrel, not stay with their assigned lab group, disrupt other students during the lab may be removed from the lab and sent to another class or receive a zero for the lab.