



Astronomy

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Conference Period: 2nd Period 10:05-10:55

Tutoring Opportunities: Lunch Period by Appointment

Class Materials:

- Composition notebook OR binder with paper (we will use this DAILY)
- Students will access Canvas daily
- Online Textbook Access: Open Stax (this can be accessed from the canvas page)

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

Students will conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific processes, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study the following topics: astronomy in civilization, patterns and objects in the sky, our place in space, the moon, reasons for the season, planets, the sun, stars, galaxies, cosmology, and space exploration. Students who successfully complete Astronomy will acquire knowledge within a conceptual framework, conduct observations of the sky, work collaboratively, and develop critical-thinking skills. Students will have the opportunity to participate in night-time or early morning observations.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Conduct laboratory and field investigations and use scientific processes during investigations.
- Make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving.
- Discuss a variety of topics that include astronomy in civilization, patterns and objects in the sky, our place in space, the moon, reasons for the seasons, planets, the sun, stars, galaxies, cosmology, and space exploration.
- Investigate how astronomy is an integral part of our daily lives.

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Six Weeks Grades will count as 1/3rd of the semester grade

- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- **Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.**

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

Students will complete assignments given in class. Major grades will typically consist of multiple choice or free response exams, projects, or other major assessments. All students are expected to participate in class, as information given in class is included on assessments.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get make up work from Canvas or the teacher during non-instructional time when you return to class. All daily make-up work must be completed with the following timeframe: Number of Days missed + one day. If you miss a test or lab, you must schedule a make-up time immediately upon return. If you are gone for a school related activity, students are required to ask for your work ahead of time. If you will be missing a test because of a school related activity, you must take your test 1 day before or immediately upon return from your event. Zeroes will be given for make-up work not turned in by the allotted due date.

Classroom Expectations:

Student must be respectful to themselves, others, and the facilities. Students are expected to follow all safety protocols. Be on time to class and avoid being absent if possible. All students should display integrity- both personally and academically. Show up to class each day with your composition book or binder.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

- 1st Six Weeks: Constellations, Astronomy in Civilization, Solar System
- 2nd Six Weeks: Sizes, Scales, and Modeling, Earth’s Seasons, The Moon
- 3rd Six Weeks: The Sun, Kepler’s Laws of Planetary Motion
- 4th Six Weeks: Telescopes, Spectroscopy, Stars
- 5th Six Weeks: Stellar Evolution, Galaxies
- 6th Six Weeks: Cosmology, Space Exploration

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student’s work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.