

LHS Applied Science 2023-24

Instructors: Mr. Pack, Mrs. Archer, Mrs. Labs

Phone: 324-4691 ext. 2309 (Archer), ext. 2303 (Labs), ext. 2308 (Pack)

Office Location: LHS Rm 309 (Archer), Rm 303 (Labs), Rm 107 (Pack)

Email Address: paul.pack@lexschools.org becky.archer@lexschools.org
kiley.labs@lexschools.org

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This science course is an entry-level course for students who need hands-on instruction, to learn and apply the Scientific Method, and to be exposed to an overview of various branches of Science. This course will focus on two broad topics. The first is inquiry, the nature of science, and technology. The second is life science, which includes the structure and function of living systems, heredity, flow of matter and energy in ecosystems, and biodiversity. The purpose of this class is introducing students to basic scientific principles as well as preparing them for the ACT.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Folder for the class labeled with the student's name, First and Last Initial of Last Name, upper right corner & Class Period.
- 3-ring Binder
- Pencils with an eraser, Black or Blue Pen, highlighter
- School issued planner
- School issued iPad (keep charger with you)
- Shoe Box to be left in the classroom clearly labeled with student's name (or any container around the same size of a shoe box)
- Text: SCIENCE: An Introduction to Life, Earth, and Physical Sciences. Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2003. (To be left in room)

GOALS:

The students will: Design and conduct investigations that lead to the use of logic and evidence in the formulation of scientific explanations and models.

- Apply the nature of scientific knowledge to their own investigation and in the evaluation of scientific explanations.
- Solve complex design problems.
- Investigate and describe the chemical basis of the growth, development, and maintenance of cells.
- Describe the molecular basis of reproduction and heredity.
- Students will describe, on a molecular level, the cycling of matter and flow of energy between organisms and their environment.
- Students will describe the theory of biological evolution.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- BE HERE (PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY)!
- BRING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE!
- ENTHUSIASTICALLY PARTICIPATE IN ALL ACTIVITIES!

CLASSROOM GUIDELINES

- Be engaged in learning. • Work hard.
- Be nice.
- Ask questions.

EXPECTATIONS

- It is always okay to do your best and ask for help.
- It is always okay to be kind and helpful.

- **BOTTOM LINE:** It is never okay to be disruptive. Being disruptive means you are interfering with learning or being hurtful.
- Students will be held accountable for their actions. When those actions are disrespectful and/or disruptive to the learning environment, students will follow the process with the classroom teacher before they re-enter the learning community.

• Students who choose not to own their actions will be given time to think away class until they are ready to rejoin the learning community.

GRADING

- Grades will be based on the district-wide grade scale.
- Final Grade Break-down for each Quarter

Tests 35% Projects 35% Classwork 30%

- Q1=45%; Q2=45%; & Sem. Test 10% = Semester #1
- Q3=45%; Q4=45%; & Sem. Test 10% = Semester #2
- Students will be given ample class time to complete all assignments. Students will rarely have work outside of class time if they are using their time efficiently.
- Assignments will be due when the instructor asks for them, any assignments turned in after that point will be considered late.
- Late papers handed in will earn a maximum of 80% credit if turned in within 24 hours. After 48 hours, a maximum of 50% credit will be earned. (If special circumstances arise, communicate with staff asap)

Accountability

- Students may have points deducted for misbehavior in class, failing to turn in homework on time, plagiarism, etc. Anything a student does that the instructor(s) believes detracts from delivery of a quality education for all other students may result in classwork point deduction. The points lost for misbehavior or the reasons listed above may not be recovered.

- Students will also lose points for absences and/or tardies
- Sponge/Bell Ringer activities will also count towards classwork grading.
- Plagiarism/Cheating
 - Anyone found cheating or plagiarizing work will be forced to follow the guidelines as written in the Student Code of Conduct. For a definition of cheating please refer to the code of conduct handout. This includes the use of AI generated answers and coursework.

ABSENCES

- The students will be held accountable for all missed assignments, notes, etc. for any absence. (You must come to one of your teachers and ask what you missed).
- Students that miss school because of a pre-excused reason need to notify the teacher as soon as prior to the absence. If you are attending a school function, your work must be made up ahead of time unless prior arrangements have been made. If students fail to make a plan to complete their assignment before the absence, they will receive a .1 on the assignment. Per school rules, students are required to come in after school to complete the assignment. Students will also lose their classwork points for that assignment.
- If you are going to miss school due to an extended family trip, a packet of articles will be put together for your participation points. These articles should be read and summarized before you come back. Students are expected to inform the teacher prior to the trip and the articles will be provided before they leave.
- If you miss a lab, you have 5 school days to make it up.
- If you are absent due to illness/injury or a death in the family, follow the two-day rule: you'll have two days to make up work per day of absence. All work must be made up within five days of the absence per the student handbook.

PLANNER

- Students are expected to fill out their planner every week when the plan is put up. Usually the plan is ready on Monday, sometimes it will be ready before and sometimes after. Major project due dates are to be entered ASAP. There will be planner checks.

SPECIAL CLASS GUIDELINES

- 1) Cellphones will be placed in and turned off in the student's backpack. Smart watches and earbuds (any headphones) will be placed in students' backpacks. Backpacks are to be placed on the east wall when entering class.

Phones, headphones and smart watches will be confiscated if seen outside of the phone caddy or students' backpack.

Items can be retrieved at the end of day from the instructor or from the front office. Continuous abuse of this guideline will be enforced with detentions.

- 2) Students will be considered tardy if they are not in the room at the bell. Also, students generally will have two (2) minutes from the bell to be in their assigned seat, with materials for the day, ready to participate in class.

- 3) Students are always allowed to use the restroom. However, restroom breaks will not be allowed during instructional discussion time, from the teacher or during classmate interaction. Use the restroom during your passing period.

- 4) Keep your school-assigned iPad charged. There are charging ports available within the classroom, however students that continually neglect charging their iPads will lose classwork points as it will be considered the same as being disruptive to the learning flow of class.

5) We would like to see students involved in one extracurricular activity, sport or club. Students involved in extracurricular activities receive higher grades and have a higher graduation rate than those that are not.

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By signing this paper, the student and parents/guardians agree to be held accountable for all the expectations and rules set forth in this syllabus for the Applied Science class. Violations of rules will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct.

Take this syllabus home and go over it with your parents. After you and your parents have carefully read and understand it, please sign and return this Declaration of Accountability page.

Student's Name _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

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REMINDER:

Parent Teacher Conferences are October 18th, 2023 in the evening, and October 19th, 2023 in the morning. Please mark your calendars now.