

Honors Unified Science Course Outline **Mr. Reutter – Room 024**

Honors Unified Science is an activities-based course that incorporates many areas of scientific endeavor. The following disciplines are reviewed in the course: earth, science, biology; chemistry, and ecology. There is a special emphasis in this course on pursuing the scientific method, problem solving, mathematics, technical reading, and technical writing. The following units will be covered in this course:

- Weather prediction
- Severe weather
- The effects of storms
- Periodic table
- Combining atoms
- Molecules in motion
- Biochemistry
- Soil formation
- Formation of resources
- Moving continents
- Earth's crust in motion
- Transfer of thermal energy
- Electrical energy
- The solar system
- Stars and galaxies

Grading: The grade for this class is composed of two parts. The first part is made up of class-work (quizzes, lab reports, homework). It is determined by dividing the total number of points accrued by the total number of points possible, then multiplying this value by 100. This mark will be 80% of the overall final mark. The remaining twenty percent will be your mark for the final exam.

You will have the option of redoing lab reports and quizzes if you feel you could do better. The original grade and the new grade are averaged together for your final mark. Homework is not redoable

Homework: Expect homework every night. Assignments can include worksheets, textbook questions, reading assignments, and lab writing. I will check homework for completion each Friday. You will get a mark out of 5 each week, one for each day complete.

Classroom Procedures

Classroom procedures are methods for getting things done in the classroom. We will have several of these operating in our room. Our procedures will be learned in three steps. First I explain and model them. Then you will practice them. Lastly, I will occasionally reinforce the procedures so that they become automatic.

Here they are:

1. Entering the room: Go to your seat. Take out the materials you need and begin working on bell work.
2. When you are tardy: Same as above.
3. End of period dismissal: I will dismiss you when I am ready to. Until that time please remain in your seats.
4. Checking out classroom materials: I will run it like a library. You need to sign out the item(s), and it (they) will be on loan for one week.
5. When you are absent: I will give you the missing work and will give you an extra day to get it in for every day missed.
6. Working cooperatively: I will assign groups and change groups when I feel it is appropriate. If you feel you need to get out of a group let me know. I will consider your petition. I have the final say in the matter.
7. Notebook setup: A title page for each unit will be made. Every day work is done needs to have a respective date.
8. Daily class agenda: It will be posted on the board. I will add any explanatory notes as needed.
9. Passing in papers: Please pass all papers to your left. When all of the papers have been passed over, I will collect them.
10. Returning student work: I will generally give back student work while you are doing bell work.
11. If you finish early: You may work on any late assignments, extra credit assignments, read a book, or draw a picture.
12. When visitors are in the classroom: Classroom behavior is expected to remain the same when I am gone or a guest speaker comes to talk.
13. If you feel suddenly ill: Please let me know if you are having a difficult day before class starts. You will be immediately excused when necessary. Please return only if you feel better.
14. Exercise the Golden Rule.