

Comprehensive Science 3

Instructor: Ms. Chutkan

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Website: <https://www.fa-chutkan.weebly.com>

Class Location: Room 216

Course Description

This course introduces new information and reviews some basics of science to prepare students for high school science coursework. Topics covered in this course include: the nature of science, physical science, earth and space science and life science. During this course, students will learn through real world examples and applications. Students will also participate in activities, laboratory experiments, and data analysis to apply what they have learned.

Methodology

This course uses a combination of lecture, independent note taking, group and class discussions, presentations, videos and hands-on learning. There will be plenty of activities and labs, as well as independent and group data collection and analysis.

Class Materials

- Three ring pocket folder
- 4" x 6" index cards (lined on one side, blank on the other)
- Case with dividers for index cards (either traditional index card case or coupon book)
- Pencil with erasers
- Other items as needed over the course of the school year

Website Information

Notes, handouts and any other informational texts will be posted on the class website. Students will still be expected to take notes and follow along in class; posted materials are only to be used as a backup. Periodically, there will be materials posted that were not distributed or discussed in class, and are included for supplemental learning. Parents can expect to find regular updates on classroom activities, and both parents and students will be able to view a calendar showing important dates and assignments.

The class website will be the primary means of communication between Ms. Chutkan and parents, and both parents and students are encouraged to check it regularly. Comments are disabled on the classroom site so if you have questions, comments or concerns, you can use Ms. Chutkan's school email to get in touch with her.

Science Lab Safety

Safety rules for the science lab will be provided and carefully reviewed. Students are not allowed to use any equipment or materials without express permission and supervision. Any student found breaking a single rule, whether during an experiment or during normal class hours, will have their lab privileges restricted. Serious offenses will result in the student being barred from one or more experiment.

Classroom Procedure

1. Upon entering the classroom, students should immediately check the board or overhead. There will be a list of items you will need for the day, as well as your assigned seat.
2. After retrieving all necessary items from your backpack (and only the necessary items), you will hang your bag on a hook on the far left wall and find your seat.
3. If there is an assignment listed, you may begin immediately. In the absence of further instruction, you will remain quiet and stay in your seat.
4. You are permitted to speak with your friends when you first enter class if you are in the appropriate seat, but you must immediately quiet down and remain silent once the bell rings.
5. Follow all directions during class hours. How much or how little we are able to do depends on each person's ability to follow instructions.
6. At the end of class, you will remain in your seat until the dismissal bell rings.

Grading Scale

A = 90% to 100%
 B = 80% to 89%
 C = 70% to 79%
 D = 60% to 69%
 F = Below 59

Grading Weights

Tests	35%
Quizzes	25%
Projects	20%
Classwork	20%

Extra Credit

There will be plenty of opportunities to earn extra credit throughout the year. Extra credit assignments will usually involve a creative interpretation of the course material, such as drawings, songs, food, etc. They must be presented and approved by Ms. Chutkan ahead of time in order to count toward your grade.

Attendance Policy

Regular and prompt attendance is essential to success in this class. Tardiness without a valid excuse may be penalized with loss of class privileges.

Students will have the opportunity to make up any missed work due to an excused absence for full credit. A student has two days to make up the work for each day the student is absent, not including the day of return. Previously assigned work is due the day of return.

In the event of an absence, students are responsible for:

1. Checking the website for missed notes and/or assignments, and other information.
2. Checking with other students for missed notes and/or assignments.
3. Checking with Ms. Chutkan to work out a plan and time frame for making up missed assignments.
4. Completing those assignments in a timely manner.

Classwork that cannot be made up will not count as a penalty toward your grade.

Late Work

You will have one opportunity per assignment to turn in late work. Work that is turned in late will be penalized by 10% each late day. Late work will not be accepted if the grading quarter in which it was assigned has ended.

Plagiarism, Cheating and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is defined as the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas (including words and images), and passing it off as one's own without proper credit to the original source. Cheating is considered to be giving or receiving unauthorized help on assignments that are determined to be an individual effort. Both are considered serious offenses, and will be punished accordingly.

Students are solely responsible for their own work. Students should never submit another person's work (including other students, parents and internet sources) as their own on individual assignments. Failure to follow this rule will result in the student receiving half credit (50%) on the assignment, without the opportunity to remediate the grade.

Group assignments are not opportunities to have someone else do your work for you. All members of a group are responsible for contributing equally to the assignment, and will share in the accountability (good or bad) for the assignment.

Electronics Policy

The only electronics permitted in class will be the ones provided to you. Personal cell phones, tablets and other electronic devices are to be turned off and stored away at all times in the classroom, and will be confiscated and turned over to Administration if Ms. Chutkan sees or hears them.

Social Media Policy

Students and parents are not permitted to contact or attempt to communicate with Ms. Chutkan on any social media platform. Sharing of personal information, including private information and images, pertaining to your teacher or fellow students is strictly forbidden.

Classroom Expectations

1. Be on time for class.
2. Be respectful to your teacher and peers at all times.
3. Be prepared for class, including bringing all necessary materials and assignments on the appropriate day.
4. Be prepared to learn and participate in class activities and discussions.
5. Raise your hand and wait to be called upon to talk. Do not speak when someone else is speaking.
6. Remain in your seat unless you have permission to get up.
7. Keep your hands and feet to yourself at all times.
8. Your teacher and peers have the expectation of privacy. Students will not go through other students' or teacher possessions, and will not touch anything that does not belong to them.
9. Ms. Chutkan's desk is strictly off limits. Drawers, cupboards, cabinets and storage are not to be opened and items are not to be removed unless given express permission.
10. Students are not permitted to open, sign in or use Ms. Chutkan's computer in any way at any time.
11. Hateful and offensive speech will not be tolerated.

Behavior that does not conform to classroom standards may result in loss of privileges, such as inability to participate in activities, experiments and discussions. Parents or guardians will be notified in the event of extreme or persistent behavioral issues, and appropriate action will be taken.

It is up to the student to determine how productive and enjoyable their class experience will be, based on whether they can demonstrate the maturity and responsibility required for hands-on learning.

Parent/Student Acknowledgment

Please sign and date this form (still attached) to indicate that you have read and understand the information presented in this syllabus.

Parents or guardians: if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student's success, please don't hesitate to contact me at the provided email address. Likewise, I will not hesitate to contact you if I feel that it is necessary.

Students: Signing and obtaining your parent's or guardian's signature on this document counts as your first grade of the school year. Make sure you start the year off on a good note.

Student

Sign

Date

Parent/Guardian

Sign

Date