

Honors Physical Science Course Syllabus

2014-2015

Course Title: Honors Physical Science

Instructor: Mrs. McCabe











Contact: (480) 987-5973 Email: cmccabe@qcusd.org

Textbook: Physical Science with Earth Science. (2012) Glencoe Publishing. (this course uses the online text and codes for online access or a text will be issued in class)

Materials: Your success will be greatly assisted with the following:

- **a spiral notebook** (preferably college-ruled), **AND** Composition notebook for labs
- colored pencils
- pens and/or pencils
- ruler
- highlighters
- a glue stick or tape.
- **A basic function calculator will be helpful.**

Course Competencies:

-  All pertinent AZ. Department of Education state standards for high school science.
-  Understand the role of Earth System Science.
-  Understand scientific inquiry.
-  Explain the relationships between matter and energy.
-  Understand the basics of the physical environment that surrounds us.
-  Design and construct controlled investigations.
-  Design and construct a variety of labs and projects.
-  Identify individual, cultural, and technological contributions to scientific knowledge.
-  Understand the history of science.
-  Basic lab skills and lab report writing, **20 minutes reading each night.**

Course Description: Physical science is a course that will explore the physical world through evaluation of concepts in chemistry and physics. The interaction of matter and energy is the foundation for this inquiry based course. Students will utilize the scientific method to investigate the natural laws governing the physical world. Topics will include concepts from physical and chemistry as well as the earth sciences. Upon completion of the course students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the physical environment and be able to apply the scientific principles learned to future science courses.

Emphasis is placed on inquiry and hypothetical-deductive based laboratories in which the student is an active participant in the formation of the lab itself, application of the scientific principles involved, and the preparation of laboratory reports. At the honors level, we will be following a more rigorous curriculum in which topics covered will be covered in more depth through student projects, labs, and various inquiry-based activities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ OVERVIEW INCLUDE

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Scientific Inquiry/Measurement	Chemical Bonds	Motion	Earth's Internal Processes
Solids, Liquids, & Gases	Chemical Reactions	Forces & Newton's Laws	Earth's Materials
Classification of Matter	Acids, Bases, & Salts	Work & Energy	Weather & Climate
Atoms, Periodic Table, Properties of Elements	Semester Exam	Thermal Energy	Astronomy Semester Exam

Grading System:

A+: 98-100	B+: 89-87	C+: 79-77	D+: 69-67
A: 97-94	B: 86-84	C: 76-74	D: 66-64
A-: 92-90	B-: 83-80	C-: 73-70	D-: 63-60
			F: 59 or below

Grades will be earned from points accumulated on assignments from the following categories:

Assignments - 35%

Assessments - 45%

Final Exam - 20%

- Tests require a minimum score of 70% or remediation is required. Your final grade will be greatly benefited by daily, on time, attendance and a good attitude and effort. Grades are updated weekly in Synergy.
- Assignments may be any of the following: homework, classwork, labs, notebook checks, etc. Assessments may be any of the following: tests, formative assessments, reading quizzes, projects, etc.

Extra-Credit might be available based on teacher's discretion.

Attendance is very important to your success. The information given in class, lab time, and group interactions is very difficult to make up. If you are absent it is YOUR responsibility to ask for assignments/notes missed. Check the Synergy calendar for Physical Science to keep up on assignments and class activities. Also, check for any PowerPoints that may get posted for those students who are absent. In class notes do not get posted online until the next day.

Make Up Work Students who have EXCUSED absences have 1 extra day for each day absent to complete make up assignments.

Late Work Policy Students will have up until the unit assessment to turn in any late assignments for 50% of the credit earned. If the students fail to turn in those assignments by set date, then it will remain a zero in Synergy. Please check the Synergy calendar to see when assignments, tests/quizzes, and projects are scheduled.

Classroom Management:

District guidelines for student behavior and QCHS's code of conduct form the basis for our experiences together. Please follow all guidelines including behavior and dress code as established in your student handbook. In addition to these standards I expect you to:

- 🌐 Please do not talk during instruction
- 🌐 Know the class procedures
- 🌐 Follow class routines
- 🌐 Be respectful of yourself and others
- 🌐 Accept responsibility for your choices

Should issues arise, consequences should be understood and accepted.

Consequences:

- 1st Step - A verbal warning.
- 2nd Step - A second verbal warning, parent contact via phone and/or email.
- 3rd Step - A written referral and parent contact.
- 4th step - Administrative referral and parent contact



Return this page to your teacher by the following date: Friday July 25th

STUDENT AND PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Students:

Your signature below represents that you have read and that you understand the classroom policies and procedures statement for this course and understand the consequences if you choose not to comply with them. You also know that if you have a problem or need help to be successful in this class, you will see your teacher during Achievement Hour.

Student Name (please print legibly)

Student Signature

Date

Technology Agreement:

I will abide by the QCUSD technology agreement given to me at the beginning of the school year.

Student Signature

Parents:

As a parent, you acknowledge the above and also understand that your son or daughter needs your full support and guidance in school attendance, completion of assignments, and maintenance of good health through nutrition, rest, and emotional support. Parents, please also note that there may be a time when a film will be shown in class. All films shown are relevant to course content. Your signature here acknowledges your permission to show your child films with ratings of "G" only. Any film with a different rating will be preceded with a separate parental permission form.

Parent Name (please print legibly)

Parent Signature

Date

Parents:

Physical textbooks will not be checked out to students. Instead students will receive instructions on how to access the electronic textbook on the Internet. QCHS fully understands that some students may not have regular access to the Internet at home for various reasons. For these students, and only these students, a select number of physical textbooks have been purchased to be checked out. Please circle your answer to the following question and sign your name acknowledging your choice.

Does your child have daily access to the Internet at home? YES or NO

Parent Signature