Course Syllabus 8th Grade Earth Science
Adobe Middle School
Ms. S. Dumas Room 30
E-mail address:sdumas@ecsdnv.net
Website: http://www.adobe.ecsdnv.net

Course Description:

This is a two semester course in the Earth Sciences for the needs of an eighth grade student. The primary goal of the course is to guide the student to a better understanding of his or her natural world through knowledge of the physical environment, including the following: geology, dynamic earth, meteorology, the earth's history and structure, and the earth's relationship in the universe. Investigative and inquiry learning exercises are an integral part of the course.

Text Books:

1) Earth Science by Glencoe McGraw Hill
Student ISBN: 0-07-86170-6
Textbooks will NOT be checked out. An online version will be available in the Google Classroom HOWEVER, if you prefer a hard copy of the book a check out option is available.
2) Everything You Need to Ace Science in One Big Fat Notebook: The Complete Middle School Study Guide.

Curriculum and State Standards:

The district curriculum for this course is located at :
http://www.ecsdnv.net/curriculum-guides-secondary-science

Content Area Standards:

This course is designed around the Nevada State Common Core Standards for Earth Science. If you would like to see a complete list of these standards you may stop by my room or access them online at: Nevada State Common Core Standards

General Course Objectives:

- To develop a scientific curiosity in each student about his world, and guide the student through investigation toward a satisfaction of this curiosity.
- To stress the importance to each student of being aware of his or her own impact on the environment.
- To promote an understanding of a scientific method and its value in establishing scientific theories.
- To make the student aware of the potential enjoyment knowledge of Science may add to leisure time activities.
- To counsel each student in the career possibilities in earth and space sciences.

Materials Needed:

1. **One Three-ring binder** with paper and one divider. (This will need to be brought to class daily for bell ringers and organization of assignments)
2. **Composition notebook** (For their interactive Science Journal. This will be left in the Science classroom.)
3. **Pencil, pen, and highlighters**
4. **Earbuds** for use with Chromebooks (One set of earbuds can be used for all classes)
5. **Independent Reading Book**

Assignments/Homework

I will give an occasional homework assignment, but for the most part homework is finishing any assignment that was not completed in class. Students are always given time in class to work on assignments and are also allotted time in SSR/ADVISORY at the end of the day to finish work. How much they get done depends upon the individual student. If they take a long time to settle down, have a hard time focusing, or do not pay attention to directions they will have less time to work on assignments in class and therefore will have more homework. **Studying for tests will always be homework.** We will review 1 day prior to test taking so your student will know what to take home to study.

Grades

I will be using the Elko County School District adopted policy for grading: Students assignments will be placed in either formative or summative assessment category. Please see website below for more details.
http://www.ecsdnv.net/grading-information
Parents/Students: Infinite Campus will also have current grades so please utilize this tool.
The grading scale is as follows:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = 0-59

MAKE-UP: Students have two days for every day they are absent to complete formative and summative assessments that were due while they were absent. COMMUNICATION IS KEY!

SSR / ADVISORY: This will be mandatory for ALL students to finish any incomplete work from the day or to read a novel. This time may also be used to make up P.E. or missed tests. THIS IS NOT SCHEDULED FREE TIME! Students need to always come prepared with a book of their choosing to read.

Contact information: Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. The best and most efficient way to reach me is by email sdumas@ecsdnv.net or call 738-3375 before school from 7:10 – 7:30 or after school from 2:30-2:40.

Thank you for taking the time to read this syllabus carefully. I'm looking forward to a terrific year! Please return the bottom portion of this page with the appropriate signatures. Tear off this back page parents keep top half for contact information, send the bottom half back signed. Students will place the syllabus in their binder.

Cell Phone Use:

A strict no cell phone policy will be implemented. If students are caught with their cell phone, it will be taken for the day. Students are in class to learn and to engage with those present in the class. If you need to get ahold of your child, you can call the school at (775) 738-3375.

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Syllabus Verification Form

STUDENT NAME: _____

COURSE NAME: 8th grade Earth Science

TEACHER NAME: Ms. S. Dumas

My signature below indicates that I have received and read the attached syllabus for the above listed class.

STUDENT Signature:

_____

PARENT Signature:

_____