

ASTRONOMY SYLLABUS and DISCLOSURE

Instructor: Mr. J. H. Lindsay

Room: S 10 & S 12

Introduction:

Welcome to my Astronomy classroom! I am very pleased and excited about having you in my class this semester. In Astronomy we will study by studying the origin of modern astronomy, galaxies, stellar evolution, the local group, and expand our knowledge of the universe. Through the process of lectures, labs/demonstrations, activities, videos, and class discussion, students will learn about Stellar processes, including constellations, the formation and death of stars, the sun, the Milky Way Galaxy, and local satellites (meteorites, asteroids, and comets) . Below, I have outlined crucial information about the class dynamics and my expectations. By signing this class contract, you acknowledge your value as a member of this class and accept the responsibilities of being a member. I look forward to getting to know you this semester and hope you will find Astronomy to be a challenging but rewarding experience.

Course Description

Students will study the universe as they cover the following topics: history of astronomy, gravity and motion, planets, stars, galaxies and the structure of the universe. This course places an emphasis on how astronomers gather information about distant objects without leaving the Earth.

Course Outline

The goals in Astronomy are to explore and gain better appreciation of this vast cosmic universe that is continuously expanding. The topics will include but are not limited to the following because of current research:

Measurements, Scientific Notation, Significant Figures, Order of Magnitude, Scaling Models, Scientific Method, Analysis and Interpretation of Cosmic data, Historical Perspectives, Law of Gravity, Laws of Motion, Telescope Science, Spectrum and Basic Spectroscopy; Structural description of the (a) Terrestrial planets – Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars; (b) the outer Frozen planets - Jupiter, Saturn Uranus and Neptune, (Pluto); (c) Insights of Meteors, Asteroids, Comets (d) Stars – Sun: (d) Stellar Evolution & Remnants – White Dwarfs, Neutron stars, Black Holes; (e) Milky Way Galaxy, Local Groups, Super Clusters Probes of Intergalactic Space- Quasars.

Course Expectations

As your science teacher I am extremely delighted to be here with you. My goal is to help you to be the very best that you can be as you set high standards and work hard consistently to achieve them. The possibilities are limitless when you have confidence and believe in your self. While it is OK to make mistakes, you must however learn from them, make corrections and move on with the new- found knowledge. Also if you are falling behind ask for help, pick your self up, and get back into the race. Last but by no means least always remember that a **“Quitter Never Wins and a Winner Never Quits”**.

Course Requirements: (\$10 Science class fee)

1. Participate in class discussions and be prepared for class, (with paper, pencil, book & calculator).
2. Do homework problems, in-class activities and projects.
3. Take quizzes.
4. An organized 3-ring binder for notes and old assignments.
5. Safely participate in lab-activities and projects that require report-writing and construction skills.

Academic-Grading Procedures:

The grades will be determined by the student's performance in 4 areas.

- i) Test and Quizzes ---40%
- ii) Homework ---30%
- iii) In-class Activities, notes and worksheets ---20%
- iv) Project Reports ---10%

Grades will be determined using the following scale:
Percentage Grade Percentage Grade Percentage Grade
93-100-----A 72-77-----B- 40-46-----D+
89-92-----A- 64-71-----C+ 34-39-----D
84-88-----B+ 55-63-----C 29-33-----D-
78-83-----B 47-54-----C-

Students with no truancies or tardies during a given quarter may have their lowest quiz score dropped when grades are calculated .

Policies and Procedures: This class will strictly adhere to the policies and procedures mandated by the Davis County School District Administration and School Board. This Policy can be found in the student folder. Tardy and Attendance policies will also be in accordance with the School-Board Rulings. Any student tardy 4-times to class in a term and/or absent without an excuse 3-times, will receive a "U" citizenship grade. Note that school excused absences are not counted. After each absence, upon returning to school, it is the student's responsibility to verify the absence with me or the absentee office by means of a note or a phone call at 402-4800 from a parent or guardian stating the reason. Absences not verified within 2-days of the day of return will be marked as a truancy. School-excused absences need to be reported to the teacher prior to leaving. I strongly encourage guardians to keep close tabs and records on their student's absences by using the Internet. If unexcused absences persist, I will be contacting the parent directly. A student is considered absent if he/she misses more than 20 minutes of one class time, or leaves without permission. If beyond 20 minutes or he/she doesn't return, they will be considered truant. Remember, a student who is in trouble with the citizenship grade, may still pass academically and make up the Citizenship Grade later. I strongly recommend that the student to continue with the academic endeavors. However, no extra-credit on the academic grade will be awarded to a student with a "U" citizenship grade.

Makeup and Late Work: Makeup work is due five school days after the excused absences. It is the student's responsibility to get the missed work from the teacher. Truancies cannot be made up. Quizzes, tests and labs may be made up after school, as arranged with the teacher by the student. Work that is late will **receive no credit!** Late work is defined as being handed-in during and after the day it is graded and handed back to the rest of the class. Deadlines will only be posted in the classroom and not on line.

Citizenship Grade and Classroom Rules: The Citizenship Grade Policies will be objectively followed according to guidelines found in the student folder.

To enhance the learning atmosphere, the teacher has established 5 rules that all students are expected to follow: (The citizenship grade & extra-credit grade will be partly based off of the following)

- i) No horseplay of any kind is allowed, (always be nice to other students).
- ii) Listen when someone is commenting or lecturing, especially the teacher.
- iii) Raise your hand for questions and comments.
- iv) Work quietly at your workstation & keep the noise level down during group-study time.
- v) Cooperate with your teacher and sleeping is not allowed, (Keep your heads off the desks).
- vi) No electronic communication-devices are allowed during class-time. (Except for emergencies!)

3. Extra-points will be awarded to each student per term for good behavior & attitude. It will be up to the student to keep these awarded points by adhering to the classroom rules. If the bonus-point are sacrificed by the student and the rule breaking persists, after-school detention and counseling is then administered and the Citizenship-grade will be affected. After-school detention will consist of janitorial activities and the time involved will be determined by the number of rules broken, (45min / broken rule). If the rule-breaking persists beyond 3 hrs of after school detention, then the teacher will contact the parents to discuss the option of removing the student from the class. At the end of the quarter, the student's bonus-points will be added on to the academic grade as extra-credit, (This may affect the grade to about 10%). Additional extra-credit will be awarded to students for participating in science-related extra-curricular activities. The school's science offer many of these activities. **No extra credit will be awarded to a student that qualifies for a "U" or is absent for more than 25% for any reason for the class at the end of the quarter.**

Special Note to the Parents: If there are any special problems, I would like permission to keep your child after school. Many students require tutoring in physics. If transportation outside normal school hours is a problem, you and your child need to discuss how that can be handled. Please indicate your approval by signing your names. If you have any comments of concerns, feel free to e-mail me at Jlindsay@dsdmail.net I highly encourage you to keep abreast of your student's grade & progress by using the Internet. I am pleased with the opportunity of working with your child, and I am looking forward to an enjoyable and productive year.

Student:

Guardian: