

7th Grade Comprehensive Science

Syllabus

Mr. Sprayberry, Room 8-109

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Attendance and Tardiness

It is very important to be in class, on time, every day. For Digital Academy learners, that means you must be logged in at the beginning of the class period to this class's Zoom meeting found on the Canvas Homepage, and you must stay actively logged in for as long as required, which varies depending on that day's activities. Log-in time could be 5 minutes, or over an hour.

Remember that each day in class, you will learn important skills that are critical to understanding the lessons given on subsequent days. Missing even one day can set you behind, and it can be difficult to catch up. When scheduling appointments and other activities try not to miss science class.

The school tardy/ attendance policy will be followed. Please consult school policy for details.

Beginning of Class

Each day, your lesson will be computer-based and require you to be logged in on the computer assigned to you. When you arrive in class, you must immediately go to your seat and log into your computer and navigate to the Canvas Homepage through Classlink. There will be no chatting or socializing or standing around in the classroom – go immediately to your chair when you walk into the room.

Often, there may be a short assignment or “Starter Task” waiting for you on your computer. Begin this task as soon as you get logged in to Canvas.

Textbook

We will be distributing “consumable” textbooks this year. This text is intended to supplement your efforts in understanding the science lessons provided in Canvas. You may keep this text at home for reference and further study.

Your “consumable” textbook is a bit different than a traditional textbook; this textbook is yours to keep as long as you like. When studying from it you are encouraged to write in it, take notes in it, highlight in it, and answer questions by marking right in the book.

Science Notebook

We will be creating a fun Science Notebook throughout the year using scissors, glue sticks, and colored inks. Many assignments will be recorded in your notebook and self-graded (graded by the student).

Make-up Work

When you are absent, MAKE-UP WORK IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY! Canvas will do a great job of tracking when assignments are due, so be sure to keep up with those due dates.

Tests and quizzes must be made up immediately after an absence. If you miss only a review day, you must take the test with the class. Test, and quizzes not made-up on time will be scored as zero.

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Grading

There are two main categories of grades.

- 1) Tests, Quizzes, Projects, and Labs will collectively count for 70% of your grade.
- 2) Classwork, Homework, and Participation will collectively count for 30% of your grade.

Please note that within each category, each assignment may be worth more or less than another assignment. Be sure to take note and be cognizant of the value of each assignment. For example, a 20-points quiz is more valuable than a 10-point quiz.

Grades in Canvas vs. Grades in FOCUS: Your *true* overall grade will be found in FOCUS just like in previous years. Canvas is a great source to see your grade earned on each assignment or quiz or project, but use FOCUS to see your true overall grade.

Grading scale

The state grading scale is used: A: 100- 90 B: 89- 80 C: 79- 70 D: 69-60 F: 59- 0

Class Rules

- **Be Prepared** and ready for class. **YOU MUST BRING YOUR FULLY CHARGED COMPUTER EACH DAY.** Be SURE you fully charge your computer each night. Make it a part of bedtime routine. Make it a habit. It is vital for you to be able to perform schoolwork the next day in all of your classes. Also bring headphones or ear buds each day. They will be needed almost every day.
- **Be Respectful** and kind to other Students, to your Teacher, and to yourself. Also respect other's property.
- **Raise your hand** to ask or answer questions. We will often have open discussions about science in class where this is not necessary, but during instruction, we must raise our hands. This keeps classroom order and allows everyone to participate.
- **Be Safe** by following lab rules, staying calm, following all COVID-19 protocols, and taking measures to ensure safety in the classroom.

Violation of Class Rules will result in consequences that escalate with multiple infractions. Parents will be contacted and involved when multiple violations occur.

Encouragement

This is going to be a unique and challenging year, and I want to help you succeed. I am here to help you work hard and learn. I am here to teach you to become an excellent student. I have high expectations of you in Science this year. I believe in you. I care about you. I am confident that you will succeed. Pay attention, listen carefully, participate, work hard, and be safe. **YOU WILL DO GREAT!!!**