

## Earth and Space Science

Mrs. Pertler, Earth and Space Instructor

Email: [kdpertle@volusia.k12.fl.us](mailto:kdpertle@volusia.k12.fl.us)

Room 8 – 103

Welcome to Earth and Space class! The purpose of this course is to cover material required by the Sunshine State Standards and introduce the Earth and Space. I hope you find this course as interesting, exciting and equally as challenging as I do. Following a few simple, but strict guidelines will ensure your success in this class.

### Textbook:

Allison, , DeGaetano, and Pasachoff. Earth Science. N.p.: Holt McDougal.

### Course Requirements:

- You are expected to attend class regularly and on time.
- You will maintain a science journal. The majority of assignments, class work, and labs will be maintained in the journal. The journal is designed to improve overall comprehension of course content.
- You are required to use an assigned textbook in class. In order to enrich or expand the ideas covered in class, reading assignments will often be given in the classroom set of textbooks.
- You will use that companion guided notes provided to capture important elements in the textbook.(you will receive a grade for these)

### Grading Policy:

- All assignments, class work, quizzes and tests are graded with a specific point value. The Volusia County grade scale will be used in determining your letter grade. The grading policy in my classroom is in conjunction with *Volusia County Schools Secondary Grading Guidelines*.

### Major Units/Topics/Themes:

- Earth's Layers
- Plate Tectonics
- The Ocean
- Weather and Climate
- Solar System
- Stars
- Origin of the Universe

### Labs:

- Depending on the topic being covered, labs may be conducted frequently. Labs will be designed to help you implement, record, analyze and evaluate your own work in order to determine the validity of your hypotheses. Unsafe behavior in the lab will not be tolerated in any way, as accidents can occur. If a student demonstrates any unsafe behavior, a zero will be given for that lab, and the student will be given a disciplinary referral. *It is the basic responsibility of everyone in the lab to make lab safety an ongoing commitment.*

### Testing:

- Unit exams, which cover multiple topics, will be given at the end of each section covered in class. Exams may include material from previous tests. You are encouraged to continuously review previously learned topics.

## Science Fair

We will be participating in Science Fair; the student may choose an alternate research project from given topics.

### Tardy and Absentee Policy:

- 5 minutes after the bell rings the door will be locked, any students not present in the classroom at this time will need to proceed to the Deans Office.
- All assignments are due on the scheduled date at the beginning of a student's class period. Late assignments may lose points, exceptions are made case by case. Please make every effort to turn work in on time.

### Class Rules:

- Work safely and respectfully
  - Be prepared to learn
  - Clean your area
- Listen and follow directions promptly
- Remain ON TASK

### Discipline Procedures:

- My job is to teach and yours is to learn. No one will be allowed to keep either of us from performing our respective jobs. In the *unlikely* event that class rules are broken, the following disciplinary consequences may be used:
  - Verbal warning
  - Work area re-assignment
  - A parent phone call or conference
  - Referral to Dean's office

\*Please note: In some instances, student behavior will require that some levels of consequences be skipped.

### Rewards:

- Throughout the year, I will give awards and incentives to those students who work hard and demonstrate leadership behaviors.
- We will have opportunities to participate in activities that have real world rewards, like the Volusia County Fair and skills competitions.
- We will have "Open House Museum Night" so parents may come view projects and observe the student's work throughout the year, usually January and May.

The final portion of this syllabus includes the parent / student signed acknowledgment. Please cut along the dotted line and return the signed portion to me no later than Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> 2016.

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# **PLEASE RETURN:**

**DUE no later than FRIDAY, AUGUST 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017!**

**PARENTS:** Please use **GradeBook** to view and keep track of your student's progress in class.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student:** I have read and understand the syllabus and lab safety rules. I agree to honor these during the course of the class.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian:** My child has discussed the syllabus and the lab safety rules with me. I understand and will support these.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents/Guardians:** Please provide the following information:

**Names (please print):** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone **Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_