

**Sentinel High School**  
**Earth and Space Science**  
**Quarter 1 2020-2021**  
Mrs. Kitzan \* Room 165  
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<https://www.mcpsmt.org/Domain/4152>

### **Introduction**

Earth and Space Science helps students understand the universe and Earth's place within it, that the Earth is continuously changing, and human activities significantly change the rates of many of Earth's surface processes. Earth scientists use repeatable observations and testable ideas to understand and explain our planet. It is important that you have a solid, *continuing* conceptual understanding of the topics we will cover – since this is the key to being able to apply your understanding in new contexts.

### **Learning Objectives**

- Students will be able to make measurements in the lab
- Students will be able to apply the principles of experimental design
- Students will be able to graph data by hand and also using a spreadsheet
- Students will construct an explanation of the Big Bang theory based on astronomical evidence of light spectra, motion of distant galaxies, and composition of matter in the universe.

**Required Materials:** please bring these with you to class each day

- Separate 3-ring binder for Earth Science only – loose leaf paper or a spiral notebook for class notes should be kept here. I recommend dividers to help keep you organized.
- Pencils/pens (pencils preferred for when you make mistakes!)
- A scientific calculator (Ex: TI-30X) ***You may not use your cell phone as a calculator!***

### **Textbook**

*Earth Science* by Tarbuck & Lutgens. There is a class set of these books in the classroom for occasional bookwork and you may check them out to take home as a resource, as needed. *COVID alternate:* Most textbook readings will be scanned in as PDFs for viewing electronically. These will be posted on Google Classroom as an e-text for convenience.

### **Grades**

- **30% Formative:** Classwork and Remote Learning Work
- **70% Summative:** Quizzes and Tests

### **Grading Scale**

- A: 90% - 100%
- B: 80% < 90%
- C: 70% < 80%
- D: 60% < 70%
- F < 60%

## Remote Learning

Your designated Remote Learning time is the same time block we normally meet in person (10:00-12:15 or 1:00-3:15) I expect you to engage in at least 2 hours of Earth Science on each remote learning day. You will access your remote learning work in our Google Classroom, and turn in assignments there. Remote Learning work might include watching a science video and answering questions, or doing some sort of online assignment. Remember, you have a lot to learn in a short amount of time and I don't want you to miss out!

## Classroom Expectations

- **Cell Phone Policy:** If brought into the classroom, cell phones must be turned off and placed in your backpack or the classroom caddy.
- **Google Classroom:** All classwork, notes, handouts, and assignments will be posted in our Google Classroom. Please check this every day.
- **Lab Safety:** Please respect yourself and the lab equipment. The labs that we are going to do this year are not hazardous as designed. But, you can easily hurt yourself, others or damage equipment if you are not following procedures. Unsafe behavior in the lab will be taken very seriously, and could result in loss of lab privileges or expulsion from the class. COVID addition: It is of utmost importance that your lab area is cleaned and sanitized before you leave. Don't worry, there will be plenty of time given to clean and sanitize thoroughly, so do a good job!
- **Class Behavior:** Please Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Engaged. This includes being on task, coming to class prepared, and not talking during lectures, tests and presentations. Doubly important in an age of wearing masks is being attentive listeners. I will do my best to speak loudly and clearly, but your cooperation will make class go more smoothly for us all! There is a clear expectation of cleaning up after the work we complete in class.
- **Late-Work Policy:** Classwork and homework are due when designated in class. It is important to keep up on your work and not fall behind during the fast-paced schedule. Any work that is turned in after the due date will be penalized 10%. All late work must be turned in by the **end of the learning block** in which it was assigned. No exceptions!
- **Attendance:** Regular attendance during this hybrid model of learning is going to be crucial to your success in this class. Missing one day of instruction can put you significantly behind. Please come to class unless you are ill. If you are absent, **you** are responsible for getting what you missed. Please check the Google Classroom to see what you missed and get any notes or assignments. You can talk with me if you have any questions about what you need to make up, only *after* you have checked the Google Classroom.
- **Academic Honesty:** You are encouraged (and expected) to work with others on your homework and lab assignments. Copying directly from someone else's work is considered cheating, and will result in a zero for both students' assignments and a referral. And, of course, cheating on tests and quizzes will result in a zero and a referral. As we do more and more work online this year, I know that you will all feel the temptation to use Google to find answers. Trust me when I tell you that we as teachers can tell when something isn't written in your own words or isn't your own work. This will not be tolerated, do yourself a favor and submit your own work. See student handbook for additional information.

- **Grades:** Grades will be updated in a timely manner in Q. Please check your grades on your own time.
- **End of Class:** Please stay focused on Earth Science until I instruct you it is time to pack up. Using class time wisely is critical to succeeding during this fast-paced semester.

### Quizzes/Tests

- **Quizzes:** Expect a short quiz each week. This quiz might be in person, or digital.
- **Tests:** There will be one test at the end of each 3-week block.

### Contact

Please feel free to email me at any time with questions and/or concerns. Please ask for help if you don't understand something we are working on. The best way to ask for help is either through email or using the "Private Comment" feature in the Google Classroom.

I look forward to getting to know you and making the most of this crazy school year!

**Sarah Kitzan**

[skitzan@mcpsmt.org](mailto:skitzan@mcpsmt.org)

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*I have read the above syllabus and understand the class requirements and expectations.*

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

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

**Parent/Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_