

Astronomy
 2021-2022

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Room 64

Course Description:

Astronomy is a year-long course taught in 2 semesters. You can take a single semester or both. The first semester is Astronomy Near and the second semester is Astronomy Far. See the unit plans below. Individual discovery is important, and students will be expected to participate in many projects, labs, and activities including making night sky observations outside of class.

What You're Going to Need:

- **Binder** (This will be an integral part of the class. It will be organized in a very specific way)
- **Writing utensils** (pens & pencils)
- **Optional** (these will be provided for you but it may be handy to have your own)
 - **Colored pencils**

Year-long Unit Overview

Semester 1: Astronomy Near

- Our Place in the Universe
- Earth-Moon-Sun Interactions
- The Moon
- The Sun
- The Solar System
- Space Travel

Semester 2: Astronomy Far

- Constellations
- Telescopes
- Stars
- Black Holes & General Relativity
- Galaxies
- Astrobiology

Grading Policy

In this class we will be using Standards Based Grading. All grades will be based on student's understanding of given learning targets on a 1-4 scale.

This is a **weighted class**. 15% of your grade will be based on formative assessments (everyday work, labs, quizzes). 85% of your grade will be based on summative assessments (tests, larger projects, cumulative notebook checks).

Grading scale

- A = 4 (85%+)** Advanced: Full comprehension with enriching details
- B = 3 (70%)** Proficient: Mastery of target, without advanced details
- C = 2 (50%)** Basic: General understanding of main ideas
- D = 1 (35%)** Novice: Shows little understanding of target



- **Late work:** all work is expected to be turned in on time. If you miss turning in an assignment, it will be marked as a zero in the gradebook until it is turned in. You will have until the end of unit to turn any missing work in.
- **Absent work:** when you are absent it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and get caught up. You will be give an additional day for each day you missed to turn work in.
- **Revisions/Retakes/Lab makeups:** All work, tests, and quizzes can be revised or retaken until the last two weeks of the semester.
 - To retake a quiz or test you must schedule a time with me to retake. You must bring your original test/quiz and study materials. We will go over the material together before you can retake.
 - Labs may be revised and turned in at any time, however if you need to get lab data or reperform the lab there will be a very specific time frame in which you can make up the lab or arrangements made with me to get a copy of the data.
 - To make revisions to any projects you will need to schedule a time to come to my room for a conference where you explain the revisions. Larger projects will also require a written reflection about your revision process.

Classroom Rules

1. **Safety:** first & always
2. **Be prepared:** Be on time, have your materials, be in your seat doing warm-up work when the bell rings.
3. **Respect:** use appropriate language & respect others always (physically, verbally, & on all levels).
4. **Cell phones:** Must be silenced & put away unless indicated otherwise.

Consequences

1. Verbal warning
2. After class conference and potential email/call to parents
3. Discipline referral and call home to parents



Academic Honesty: All work in this class is expected to be your own. If you cheat or plagiarize work: you will be given a zero until the work is completed honestly; I will contact your parents; You will receive a detention per the student handbook.