



Northwestern Middle School

Subject: High School Physical Science Honors
Syllabus 2019-20
Grade: 8

Teacher: Joseph Brock and Julie Godfrey

Textbook: McGraw-Hill Georgia Physical Science (Glencoe). 2018. Replacement cost: \$99.99

Online Textbook: There is a password protected website that allows students to access the Student Interactive Edition of the text. Individual teachers will share this information with their classes.

Course Description:

The High School Physical Science curriculum continues students' investigations of the physical sciences that began in Grades K-8. The course is designed to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to become literate, knowledgeable, and proficient in Physical Science at a deeper detail and depth than on level coursework. The course includes more abstract concepts such as structure of atoms, motion and forces, conservation of matter and energy, action-reaction principle, and the behavior of waves. These concepts are investigated through laboratory experiences and fieldwork designed for students to develop appropriate knowledge and skills in science as inquiry. The first semester will be based on chemistry and will include such concepts as the structure and reactivity of atoms and compounds, the relationship of matter and energy, the periodic table and elements, chemical naming, acids and bases, and radioactivity. The second semester will focus on physics and will cover motion and forces, Newton's laws, work as related to energy, temperature and heat, waves and wave properties, electricity, magnetism, communication technology, relativity, and introductory Earth and space sciences.

Class time will be incorporated with various instructional tools to facilitate the learning process. Participation in demonstrations, discussions, cooperative learning groups and laboratory investigations is expected. Students will be required to work individually and as a member of a team.

Course Outline:

First Semester	Second Semester
Characteristics of Science (ongoing)	Force & Motion
Atomic Structure & Periodic Table	Waves
Chemical Reactions & Properties of Matter	Electricity and Magnetism

*The next class in this sequence is Biology

Teacher/Parent Communication:

Email – is the most efficient way to contact teachers

Conferences – may be scheduled based on each student's needs

Interim Report Cards – come home every 4 ½ weeks

Infinite Campus – please check frequently for your child's progress

Teachers may have a website or will use email blasts to communicate information.

Teachers Email Addresses:

Mr. Brock - brockj1@fultonschools.org

Ms. Godfrey – godfreyj@fultonschools.org

Please ensure you are also registered for Infinite Campus so you can view your child's grades. Teachers will post grades in HAC within 2 weeks of test dates or project/assignment due dates.

Grading:

Summative Assessments – Tests and Projects – 50%
Formatives Labs, Quizzes, Performance assessments, and Classwork - 25%
Homework – 5%
Final Exam/EOCT – 20%

Fulton County Grading Scale:

A: 100-90
B: 89-80
C: 79-70
F: 69 and below

Science Recovery Policy:

Only tests are eligible for recovery. Only students that scored 74% or less are eligible to recover a test.
Requirements for recovery:

- Student must initiate a request
- Student must complete the recovery assignment.
- It is recommended that the student attend at least one help session during the recovery process.
- Student must complete the requirements prior to taking the recovery test.

When recovery is attempted, the higher of the two grades will be entered not to exceed 75%.

Study Guide Policy:

Students at Northwestern Middle School will be provided a study guide to use when studying for their assessments. This study guide will include key vocabulary and essential questions to be answered. This guide will be given at least a week prior to the test and answers will be provided in class. The study guide questions are a guide to the types of questions they may see on the test.

Late Work Policy

All students are expected to turn in all work on the due date.
Work is considered late if it is not ready to be turned in at the start of class.
Homework will not be accepted late.
For summative and formative assignments students will receive 10 points off each day that work is late for up to three school days. If the student does not turn in his/her work by the third school day, he/she will receive a ZERO for that assessment.

Help Sessions:

Students may attend the scheduled help session of any science teacher on the 8th grade hall.

Teacher	Day	Room	Time
Brock	Thursday	802	8:05 AM
Godfrey	Wednesday	804	8:05 AM

Absence Make-Up Procedures (FCBOE Policy)

Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the teachers to request make-up work. Make-up work must be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. At NMS, students will be given the same amount of time to make up the work as the student was absent unless other arrangements are mutually agreed upon. The student will receive the actual grade on the make-up work if the absence was “excused.”

Cell Phone/Electronics Policy:

Cell phones use is not permitted in class.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic honesty is very important at Northwestern Middle School. If a student is caught cheating on a major assessment, he or she will be referred to administration for further disciplinary action. In addition, plagiarism in any form is not accepted. Plagiarized work may receive a grade of zero and referral for academic dishonesty. It is the responsibility of both the student and the parent to be aware of what constitutes plagiarism and its consequences.

All plagiarizing will result in the following:

1. Parents will be notified
2. Students will re-do the assignment or an alternative assignment
3. Possible administrative referral

TAG/Advanced Academic Probation:

Students failing to meet the Continuation Criteria are automatically placed on probation. Probation may last for as little as one grading period but no more than one school year. Parents must be notified in writing when a student is placed on probation. A written plan explaining how a student can be removed from probationary status will be included in notification to the parent and student. In placing a student on probation, it should be considered that unsatisfactory performance in a content area of service would be documented with a grade < 80.

Advanced/TAG Student Performance Standards:

Advanced students will develop more complex research methods and independent study skills, which allows for the in-depth learning of self-selected topics within the area of study.

Advanced students will develop and practice creative thinking and creative problem-solving skills with a variety of complex topics within the area of study, to be generators of ideas and products original to the students.

Advanced students will develop and practice higher-order and critical thinking skills in an area of study.

Advanced students will develop improved communication skills that incorporate new techniques, materials, and formats in the development of products and ideas that will be shared with adults and

Please sign below indicating that you have read the syllabus and plagiarism policy and return to your teacher by Friday, September 13. Keep the syllabus for future reference.

Student Printed Name: _____

Students Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Phone Number(s): _____

Parent E-mail Address: _____