COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an enriched course for highly motivated and qualified students. This course studies the different processes, relationships, mechanisms, and concepts that help us interpret our planet Earth and is based on the New York State Physical Setting/Earth Science core curriculum plus more advanced topics. It incorporates hands-on laboratory experiences and covers an array of topics including: Astronomy, Chemistry, Geology, Meteorology, and Climatology.

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS IN HONORS

For students to remain in Honors Courses they must meet two out of the three criteria:

- Final average of 85 or better
- Tentative Teacher Placement [documentation of additional student characteristics]
- 90 or better on the applicable Regents examination

STUDENTS EXPECTATIONS:

Students are expected to be punctual, prepared, productive, and polite. Cell phone and other handheld electronic device are not to be used in class, unless permission is granted.

MATERIALS FOR CLASS:

It is expected that the student bring the proper supplies to class each day:

- 3 Ring Binder with loose leaf
- Pen, pencil and highlighter
- Scientific Calculator or 5-function calculator
- Earth Science Reference Table [provided in the beginning of the year]

GRADING POLICY:

Grades are distributed as follows:

- Assessments ......................... 50 %
- Assignments .......................... 25 %
- Laboratory Activities ............... 25 %

ASSESSMENTS:

Tests and quizzes will be announced well in advance in order to provide ample time for studying. They will reflect all information from the class notes, worksheets, laboratory activities, supplemental activities and homework assignments. Students will also receive review sheets and sample questions prior to all topic tests.
ASSIGNMENTS:
Assignments constitute both class work and homework. Both will be assigned on a regular basis and late assignments will not be accepted for a grade.
Class work assignments are designed to provide insight and background knowledge on upcoming topics. Homework assignments are designed to reinforce topics covered from lecture notes, worksheets and laboratory activities. Homework assignments consist of online computer assignments from Castle Learning and reading activities from the textbook.

LABORATORY ACTIVITIES:
“Critical to understanding science concepts is the use of scientific inquiry to develop explanations of natural phenomena. Therefore, as prerequisite for admission to the performance test and written portion of the Regents examination in the Physical Setting/ Earth Science, students must have successfully completed a minimum of 1200 minutes of hands-on laboratory experience with satisfactory reports on file.” [SED]

- For a student to have a satisfactory laboratory activity they must correctly complete all vocabulary, procedures, calculations, and discussion questions.
- If a student receives an unsatisfactory laboratory activity or is legally absent on the day of the activity, they have until the end of that topic to make-up the activity for full credit.
- If a student does not resubmit the unsatisfactory laboratory activity or does not make up the laboratory activity within that topic, that laboratory report will NOT be accepted for a grade and is not eligible to earn credit towards their laboratory requirement.
- Laboratory activities must be complete by June 1st to be eligible to take the Regents exam.

ABSENCES AND EXTRA HELP:
Students are expected to make up any work during their absence(s). They will be given one week from the due date to hand that missing assignment. Failure to turn in any missing assignments will result in a failing grade for that assignment. Field trips, sporting events, music lessons, or any other extracurricular activities are considered an absence from class.

Please take advantage of extra help. Regularly scheduled extra help is Monday through Thursday from 1:50 to 2:20. You may also schedule an appointment during a mutually free period. In the event you are making up a laboratory activity, please make arrangements beforehand to ensure that all materials will be available.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Email: tleighma@eischools.org
Class Website: www.earthtoleigh.com
School Phone: (631) 224-2100
Sign up for Remind:
- Visit: remind.com/join/eihonors
- Text: @eihonors to the number 81010