NNHS Astronomy Syllabus

MISSION
To educate students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is an advanced one semester course designed for the student who wants to investigate the inner-workings of the universe. This inquiry based laboratory course will take advantage of and utilize the latest technology advances in space exploration. Topics will include: space navigation, planets, sun, asteroids, comets, robotics, rockets, and humans in space. The course will involve laboratory experiments, group projects, lectures, class discussions, computer activities including NASA digital conferences with NASA scientists.

COURSE LEARNING STANDARDS
Orientation of the Night Sky = 10%
The Sun = 15%
Vagabonds of Solar System 15%
Humans in Space = 20%
Robotics = 20%
Rockets and Shuttles = 20%

GRADING
Overall Semester grade
85% of the Course grade, 15% = Final Exam
The final semester grade will be rounded to the nearest percentage point.
Course Grade
Each unit/standard is assigned a particular percentage.
Within each unit, summative and formative sections are weighted as follows:
80% Summative (tests, quizzes, projects), 20% Formative (labs, class work, activities, homework, quizzes)
Grading Disbursement: A= 90-100 B= 80-89 C= 70-79 D=60-69 F= <59

REASSESSMENT POLICY
Summative Assignment Retake Policy (retakes are available on most summative work excluding final exams NO retake opportunities are available on formative assessments):
1. Students are only allowed retakes on unit tests on which they receive a 79% or below.
2. The maximum grade the student can get on the retake is an 80%.
3. The higher of the two scores will be entered in Infinite Campus
4. The retake times and locations are left up to the individual teacher.
5. Students opting for a retake must complete an alternative assignment, assigned by the teacher.
6. There will only be 1 retake attempt per summative assessment per student

Link for further information
http://schools.naperville203.org/north/academicdepartments/StandardsBasedAssessment.asp

COMMUNICATION
• Teachers make every effort to respond to emails and phone calls within 48 hours during the work week.
• The best way to communicate with teachers is through email; however, if you haven’t received a response in 48 hours, please resend the email or call their voicemail. Your email may have gone into the spam folder.

HELP
• Make an appointment with your teacher.
• Attend S.O.S (supervised open study) in the Literacy Center M, W & Th from 3:15 to 4:15.
• Drop in for peer tutor during lunch periods or before school through the Literacy Center.

Revised December 15, 2014
PARENTS OR GUARDIANS We need your help!

- Parents should actively check Infinite Campus for their student’s grade. The grades on Infinite Campus will be accurate only at Mid-Quarter and Quarter. Prior to those dates, the grade reflected is fluid. Infinite Campus is a communication tool until final grade is posted.
- Please ask your student about their school work. Check with your individual teacher for classroom procedures, schedules, and daily class news.

BEHAVIOR The science classroom is a place for teaching, learning, and experimenting with science. The learning environment for this course will be one of RESPECT for oneself, others in the course and the instructor. Any inappropriate behavior will be dealt with accordingly. (Please refer to your student handbook for specifics). Inappropriate behavior WILL NOT be tolerated. The instructor will remove any student from the course that is interfering with the learning process, this removal maybe temporary or permanent. CELL PHONES, IPODS, OR OTHER ELECTRONICS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE CLASSROOM ANY STUDENT USING THESE DEVICES IN THE CLASSROOM WILL RECEIVE A DEAN REFERRAL.

A typical process maybe:
1st offense: Verbal Warning from instructor 3rd offense: Dean Referral
2nd offense: Detention from Instructor 7:10-7:40am 4th offense: Parent/Dean/Teacher Conference
Depending upon the severity of the behavior a student may be sent straight to the Dean for disciplinary action or a parent conference maybe necessary.

MAKE UP WORK If you are absent it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed. You will need to have this work completed in a reasonable amount of time. Reasonable in my mind is (example: 2 days absent then 1 week, to make up the work) If you are absent for more than three days in a row you should make an appointment with me so that we can set up a makeup schedule for you.

Laboratories: Any labs that you missed during your absence you are responsible for completing. You need to schedule a MAKE UP LAB TIME WITH THE INSTRUCTOR. If you do not attend a lab make up time and turn the lab in, I will assume that you copied it which will result in a zero for the assignment.

Tests and Quizzes: Make ups for test and quizzes need to be scheduled on an individual basis with the instructor. All test and quizzes should be made up within a week of the original absence.

Late Work: Any work not turned in on the due date may be turned in the next day for 50% credit. After that the assignment becomes 0% in the grade book.

Field Trips: Inform the instructor 48 hour before your departure. Turn in any work that is due BEFORE you leave and find out what you are missing in class that day. If you are gone the day of a test or quiz you will be given the test/quiz in class the day that you return, you may also take the test or quiz early.

Academic Integrity Code: It is your responsibility to read Naperville North’s Academic Integrity Code: All academic dishonesty will be reported to your Dean. You will receive a 0% on any formative assessment. Summative assessment academic dishonesty will receive a 0% and an opportunity to retake to receive up to a 70%. A second offense will result in a 0% with an opportunity to retake to receive up to a 59%. All subsequent incidences will be given a 0%.

INSTRUCTOR’S AVAILABILITY
Mary Slack: Science Department (2nd Floor) Room 202
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 3:10-3:45pm and Wednesday, Friday 7:20-7:40am
Voice Mail: 305-4970 or Science Department 420-6513 E-mail: mslack@naperville203.org
Instructional Coordinator: Andy McWhirter amcwhirter@naperville203.org 630-420-6513

MATERIALS
1 Three-Ring Binder (large enough to hold the semester handout booklet and your notes)
1 Package (250 pages) Loose Leaf College Ruled Paper
1-2 Black or Blue Pens, 1-2 Pencils,1 Green Pen, and 1 Large Eraser
1 package (100 cards) white index cards 3x5 with lines

Revised December 15, 2014