

8th Grade Earth Science

Course Outline, Syllabus & Expectations

Teacher: Mr. Allison

Email: brian.allison@delanoschools.org

Teacher Class Page: <https://www.delano.k12.mn.us/high-school/science/brian-allison>

GeoBlog: <http://mnearthscienceguy.posterous.com/>

Twitter: @earthscienceguy

1. **Respect** everyone and everything in the classroom! This expectation includes the following: NO writing on desks or in textbooks. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Be quiet when others are speaking to the class.
2. **Assignments** on the board or class website are your responsibility. These include notes, worksheets, tests, quizzes, book questions, labs, journal entries, and projects. It is important to hand your assignments in completed and on time. You need to write down your assignments in an agenda or notebook at the beginning of each class. If you are gone, be sure to pick up anything you missed – do this immediately when you come back. It is your responsibility to pick these missing assignments up, NOT the teacher's! *Assignments and tests will be posted on Mr. Allison's DHS website.*
3. **Late work** – You will receive NO credit (a zero) for smaller, daily assignments turned in late – unless you are excused. For larger projects (40 points or more), students will be docked **50%** if they turn it in late (anything later than a week will NOT BE accepted at all). As stated in the student handbook – you have one calendar day for each day absent plus one extra day to turn in your work. If you were present the day the assignment was given, but absent the date it was due, **YOU MUST** hand it in the next class period that you attend if you want full credit given. **Please check Family Access periodically to see all your grades/assignments.** If a student is absent, and an assignment or small quiz is carried out in class that day, at times he/she will be excused from it. These will be posted as excused or 'no count' assignments on Family Access – these excused assignments will neither help nor harm the student's grade. *It is crucial that the student gets the information he/she missed* because some of the information will show up on the Unit Test!
4. **Lab experiments** may occur over a period of days or may only be one-day activities. Misbehavior during labs will result in no credit. Please report all cuts, burns, bites, etc. immediately! Be sure to clean your lab area properly and put materials away after each lab before being dismissed.
5. **Journals** will be used in this class. Students will have a variety of entries – included will be labs, investigations, reflections, etc. These will stay in the classroom at all times. They are available for student review or use before school or after school.
6. **Tests** will be taken at the end of a unit. Tests will occur approximately three times a quarter. Some tests may involve making measurements or doing an activity. There will be a Study Guide (Vocabulary terms/Learning Targets) for most units available online.
7. **Grading** – Your grades will be based on the total number of points earned on tests, labs, journal entries, notes, assignments, and projects.

A = 93.00-100%
A- = 90.00-92.99
B+ = 87.00-89.99
B = 83.00-86.99
B- = 80.00-82.99
C+ = 77.00-79.99

C = 73.00-76.99
C- = 70.00-72.99
D+ = 67.00-69.99
D = 63.00-66.99
D- = 60.00-62.99
F = 59.99 and below

The following percentages will comprise your final grade:

Tests = 35%

Labs = 30%

Projects = 20%

Homework = 10%

Journal = 5%

8. A **notebook, binder, folder, and writing utensil** are required for this class. Be sure to bring your notebooks and writing utensils each class!! There will be consequences for those who forget frequently. You will not be allowed to go to your locker if these items are forgotten. No backpacks, lunchboxes, baggy winter coats, etc., per school policy.
9. **Cell Phones** – although phones may occasionally be used throughout the year (internet, calculator, etc.) if available, there will be a storage place for phones throughout the class period. Phones will not be kept on student tables, in clothing or binders, etc. Those that are will be confiscated and turned into the office.
10. **Lab clean up** is part of the lab. Your lab area must be clean and all materials returned to their proper location. The whole class will not be dismissed until everyone has properly cleaned their area.
11. **Hall Passes** – each student will receive four (4) hall passes to leave the room (locker, bathroom) per quarter. When all four passes are used, you will not leave the room. A maximum of four unused passes can be turned in for extra credit at the end of the quarter.
12. **Textbooks** – Please take care of your textbook, these are only four years old!! **You must cover you textbook with an XL fabric or paper book cover.** After a warning, points will be deducted for those students that are missing covers. If a student loses or destroys the textbook, they will be responsible for the replacement of the textbook.

Title: **Glencoe iEarth Science**
 Glencoe/McGraw-Hill (copyright 2012)
 Replacement Cost: \$87.00

Online Textbook: Information regarding an online textbook will be given sometime in the first few weeks of school.

The following topics will be covered in the Earth Science course:

Matter	Minerals	Rocks & Rock Cycle
Weathering & Erosion	Water Systems	Atmosphere & Weather
Climate	Astronomy	Oceanography
Plate Tectonics	Earth History	Conservation

Cut below and return to Mr. Allison. This is worth 5 points. This is due Sept. _____.

*****We have reviewed and understand the course outline and syllabus for 8th Grade Earth Science.**

Date: _____ Student Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Guardian's Signature: _____