**9th Physical Science Syllabus**

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**Ms. Easterwood**

jrakestraw@paulding.k12.ga.us

*Honors Physical Science content students are expected to have a strong work ethic, intellectual curiosity, and initiative. They are expected to maintain behavior that is consistent with the school and classroom policies that promotes a safe and optimal learning environment. Students are expected to be self-motivated, responsible for their own learning, ask for help when needed, and have good study habits.*

**Honors Class Structure:** Class structure and academics are designed to plan challenging, thought-provoking, research based curriculum and learning for students. Examples include the following:

* Current event/research articles
* Warm-ups
* Case studies
* Choice boards
* Journal writing
* Independent study
* Partner/group work
* Performance tasks
* Homework: review & practice
* Models/Analogies
* Various assessments
* STEM/STEAM Integration
* Laboratory activities
* Cross-cutting concepts
* Assessment analysis & reflection
* Research papers/projects
* Project presentations
* Unit/concept mapping
* Student & teacher conferencing

**Classroom Resources:** Technology, Stem Scopes, Coach Books, Online Resources, etc.

**Honors Course Description:**Welcome to physical science, an inquiry based approach to learning science that is correlated to the Georgia Performance Standards & Next Generation Science Standards. The program consists of the following units:

* Matter/Chemistry
* Energy & Transformations
* Electricity & Magnetism
* Waves
* Forces & Motion

Visit [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org/) for a detailed list of standards.

**Expectations:** Appropriate behavior is always expected. Students must be respectful of the learning environment, follow the classroom procedures and bring the following supplies to class everyday:

* 1” Three Ring Binder
* Paper
* Pencil

**Class Format**: The class will be taught using various methods; each student will have a notebook.  Students will work individually as well as collaboratively. At times, lectures will be presented and hands-on activities will take place.  Please note the following SAMPLE weekly schedule:

* Tuesday and Wednesday – students should be studying at home for their quiz or test on Thursday
* Thursday – there will be a quiz on the material covered since the previous Thursday; the only exception will be if there is a unit test in its place.
* Labs – there will be an experiment, station lab, or activity in the classroom on various days

**Grading Policy:** Grades will be based upon a student’s mastery of the Georgia Standards of Excellence for each unit, which will be evaluated using a variety of assessments.

**Assessments**: may include, but are not limited to, reflections, quizzes, unit tests, and performance tasks. Students will be afforded one summative test recovery per semester (excluding mid-terms, finals, and EOC tests). Honors Physical Science will follow the grading policy for high school. The weight distribution will be as follows:

Formative - 29% (quizzes, various classwork assignments, small projects)

Summative - 71% (tests, cumulative assessment)

The formative and summative categories determine 80% of the final average and the End of Course Test (EOCT) is 20%.

The Honors Physical Science class is a yearlong class.

**Students will take a Pretest, Unit tests and the End-of-Course test (EOC). The date of the EOC is not determined at this time but is usually taken during the first week of May. Data collected from the Pretest is for instructional purposes only.**

**Assignments: Late Work:**  Students have until the last day of the Term to submit any missing or incomplete work. Students will be afforded one summative test recovery per nine weeks after attending tutoring and completing remediation assignments.

**Absence**/**Make-up Procedure:** Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the teacher to request make-up work and make arrangements to take any missed tests.

**Work habits and Conduct**: Students are evaluated academically, by their work habits, and conduct in class:

•The components of work habits include: promptness, preparedness, organization, participation, task completion, following directions, and showing initiative.

•The components of conduct include: following school and classroom rules, policies, and procedures, and appropriate classroom behavior, i.e. no excessive talking, stealing, destruction of property, etc.

**Behavior Management Plan:** Please refer to the student handbook for the behavior management steps that will be followed in class.

**Attendance:** Attendance to class is important for student success. Please notify teachers if you have a planned absence.

**Parents and Students Staying Informed:**

1. Use class websites/Canvas to stay up to date with daily class work and homework.
2. Infinite Campus allows parents and students to see what their grades are in all subjects, grades on individual assignments. Students are encouraged to look up their grades once a week.
3. Be sure to sign up for Remind for quick communication about class.

**Items that would help our class:**

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| Classroom Needs | Copy paper - white | Dry erase markers |
| Copy paper – variety of colors | Dry erase erasers |
| Construction paper | Pencils |
| Boxes of tissue | Colored pens (red, green, & purple) |
| Hand sanitizer | Band-Aids |
| Disinfecting Wipes | Ziploc Bags (all sizes) |

I have read and understood the course content description for Advanced Physical Science.

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_