

2022-23

stem science

MRS. ELLIS

E.MCLAUGHLIN@MERCER.K12.PA.US

ROOM 209

GOALS FOR THE COURSE:

- To expose students to a variety of scientific topics.
- To encourage students to think critically and problem solve.
- To introduce and develop group work and inquiry as it relates to STEM.
- To allow students to develop creative and critical thinking skills as they pertain to STEM science.
- Develop communication skills.
- Focus on STEM as it pertains to environmental science.



CLASS INFORMATION:

Schedule:

1. STEM
2. Prep. Period
3. Science 7
4. Science 7
5. Lunch
6. Lunch Duty
7. Science 7
8. STEM
9. STEM

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completing this course, students should be able to...


- Compare and contrast different methods of problem solving as it applies to different situation including environmental concerns.
- Understand the importance of group work, critical thinking, and asking questions.
- Identify varying types of problem solving.
- Define terms as they are related to STEM science.
- Identify and evaluate different systems through STEM modeling.
- Apply these concepts to real world events especially pertaining to the environment.
- Construct a graph as a model for applications.
- Construct models of scientific phenomena as discussed in this course.
- Be prepared to transfer problem solving and critical thinking skills to other classes and parts of everyday life.

*DISCLAIMER: I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THE CONTENTS OF THIS SYLLABUS WITH WRITTEN NOTICE.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

The course format is incredibly interactive, so your participation and attendance are both expected. What does this look like? Attending all class meetings ("lectures") without habitually arriving late or leaving early, participating in discussion, participating in activities and groupwork, following the course policies regarding technology use, etc. You will not be penalized for excused absences (according to district policy).

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO COMPLETE ANY AND ALL ASSIGNMENTS FROM DAYS ABSENT. IF A STUDENT MISSES 30% OF PROJECT WORKDAYS, AN ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENT WILL BE GIVEN.



Homework is created when a student is not using class time wisely. Most assignments given are considered classwork therefore the teacher allows enough time in class for assignment to be completed. If a student does not have enough time in class to complete an assignment it then must be completed as homework.



PROJECTS:

Projects are assigned weekly if not more often. These projects are the way the teacher tests your knowledge and understanding.

CLASSWORK:

Classwork is given each day and is assigned via Google Classroom. A majority of the students grade will come from these assignments. If a student is absent, they are responsible for all missed classwork. Students will be given an equal amount of days to the days they were absent to make up the classwork. If a student fails to make up classwork, they will receive an incomplete (zero) for that assignment.

course policies



ALL CLASSROOM POLICIES FOLLOW AND ALIGN WITH THE MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT HANDBOOK.

CELL PHONE POLICY: ALIGNED WITH THE STUDENT HANDBOOK, STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO USE CELL PHONES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY INCLUDING THIS CLASS.

MATERIALS: ALL STUDENTS NEED 2 BLACK AND WHITE COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS.

STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO RECORD ANY PORTION OF THE CLASS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TEACHER INSTRUCTION, OTHER STUDENTS, THE TEACHER, A COVERING TEACHER, OR ANY OTHER CLASS ACTIVITIES.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

In order to promote a healthy learning environment, I expect all students to be respectful to all members of our learning community. The district has a commitment to respect the dignity of all and to value differences among members of our academic community. There exists the role of discussion and debate in academic discovery and the right of all to respectfully disagree from time-to-time. Students clearly have the right to take reasoned exception and to voice opinions contrary to those offered by the instructor and/or other students. Equally, a faculty member has the right---and the responsibility---to ensure that all academic discourse occurs in a context characterized by respect and civility. Students who are not respectful, not civil, or disruptive in any way may be asked to leave the class, with punishment according to the district handbook to follow.

EMAIL POLICY:

I will respond to emails within 24 hours. I usually respond to emails Monday-Friday 8AM-3:30PM.

ANSWERING COMMONLY-ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: "What can I do to bring up my grade?" (*asked during the semester)

A: Use class time wisely, complete all in class work on time and to the best of your ability.



Q: "I was absent...did we do anything important?"

A: We will ALWAYS be doing something important in class. The practice we do, the notes we take, the discussions we have—they are all important! That is why attendance is mandatory! If you miss class, ask at least two people in class what you missed before coming to me. You are responsible for the course material for every class period, even ones you miss. ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE FOUND ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM.



Q: "Do we need to know this?"

A: *facepalm

PARENT SIGNATURE:

PARENT CONTACT:

STUDENT SIGNATURE:

ANYTHING I MAY NEED TO KNOW OR THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE ME TO KNOW: