



# Course Syllabus for Global Science

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Global Science is a foundational class. This course gives an introduction to the core sciences of chemistry, biology, physics, and earth science. It is designed to give you a solid foundation for studying any or all of the science disciplines offered at GOHS. Beyond new vocabulary and deeper looks into basic science, students build a toolbox and fill it with the educational tools needed to successfully compete in today's technologically advancing world. Our citizens need to be able to make intelligent decisions and sift through the onslaught of opinion and fact in today's media. (State Standards covered: See additional information for the specific California State Standards covered in this course.)

Information concerning homework assignments, lecture notes, extra credit and your grade in this class can be found on my web site at: <http://gohs.tvusd.k12.ca.us/TeacherWebs/science/dnoble/>.

If over the next few weeks you need to contact me, please feel free to leave a message on my voice mail and I will call you back. The following phone number will connect you to our voice mail system: 294-6450, ext. 3401. If this is not convenient, you can email me at [dnoble@tvusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:dnoble@tvusd.k12.ca.us).

## GRADING:

The Science Department will base student grades on individual performance based upon California State Science Standards. Therefore, a student's grade is based upon activities that support work toward mastery of each standard taught. These grades are based upon assessments per standard (tests, quizzes, and observations), labs, classroom activities, departmental midterms and finals, and investigation and experimentation.

Students can receive a specific amount of points on any given assignment. The total points earned by the student will be compared to the actual points possible and a grade will be based on the following scale:

A = 90-100%    B = 80-89%    C = 70-79%    F = 69% or below

The final grade, however, will be determined as follows:

- A    Achieving at least 90% - 100% on 5 of the 6 Standard Units
- B    Achieving at least 80% - 89% on 5 of the 6 Standard Units
- C    Achieving at least 70% - 79% on 5 of the 6 Standard Units
- F    Not Pass – 69% or below

Each major standard covered in the first semester, six total, will make up an equal percentage of the semester grade.

## HOMEWORK:

There is approximately 2-4 hours of homework assigned per week. This includes reading of the Lab/Activity Manual, reviewing class notes, and finishing assignments started in class. Homework is due at the very start of class. **Late work will not be accepted!** Students must bring their Lab/Activity Manual to class EVERYDAY.

## ABSENCE AND MAKE-UP POLICY:

There is a relationship between good grades and good attendance. Regular attendance will be expected from all students. Having a good attendance record contributes to high achievement and academic success. When a student is absent, **it is the student's responsibility** to check the class website for missed work. They can also select a reliable person in this class to be a "Study Buddy", someone who would give you correct information about assignments for this class. A student has the same number of days absent to make up the work. So, if they are absent 2 days they have 2 days to make up the work. Students may not make-up any work for an uncleared absence (truancy). **Don't expect me to remind you of missed work!!**

## TRUANCY POLICY:

Students are not allowed to make-up any work done or assigned during the absence. Any assignment due on a day a student is truant will be considered late. **Clearing absences is the student's responsibility**, as is getting the make-up work.

## CLASSROOM MATERIALS

The following materials must be brought to class everyday:

- A three-ring binder with section dividers
- An adequate supply of lined, notebook paper
- Pens, Pencils with erasers and Colored Pencils
- Scientific Calculator
- Ruler
- Highlighter
- 100-page spiral notebook to be used for your daily journal
- A positive attitude and willingness to learn

## LAB ACTIVITY INFORMATION

The ability to work and cooperate within a group of people is a very important skill. Throughout this year, there will be many lab activities, which will require you to work with your peers in performing different tasks.

**(You must do your share of the work!)** Usually students are assigned to a lab group. The following information is provided to help the student during lab activities.

- **READ** the information and instructions in the lab handout. All the information you need to do the lab is usually in the lab.
- Go through the lab in a chronological order. Don't skip around. You may think you are saving time, but most often you are not.
- I purposely offer little assistance after my initial instructions, so please listen very intently at the beginning of class. My function is not to give you answers, but to guide you into finding and discovering information by yourself.
- Labs will be done either by yourself or in a group. The maximum size for a lab group is 3!
- A lab group may share information, during that class period only, within the members of the group. Members of one lab group may not receive assistance from any other lab group. Furthermore, once you start with one lab group, you may not switch to another that period. Lab materials and equipment are to be returned to their original destination in the same condition you found them at the beginning of class. This means be finished with the clean up with at least 5 minutes left in the class.
- If you miss a lab do to an absence, you can make up the lab the next day either before school, during lunch or after school.

## **Global Science Year at a Glance**

	Description	# Of weeks	California Science Standards
Unit 1	Energy 1	6	Physics 4 a, c, f and Earth 7 a – c; 9c
Unit 2	Biodiversity 1	6	Biology 6 a – f
Unit 3	Matter 1	6	Chemistry 1 a – e, 2 a – c; and Earth 7 a - b
Unit 4	Energy 2	6	Earth 3 a – f and Earth 9b
Unit 5	Matter 2	6	Physics 4 b, d, e; and Chemistry 5 a – c
Unit 6	Biodiversity 2	6	Biology 8 a, b, e