

COURSE OUTLINE

Course: The Physical Setting: *Earth Science*

Instructor: Mr. Lewis

Room: 140

I. Course outline

A. The Physical Setting: *Earth Science*

1. 3 courses in science are required for graduation for **ALL** students entering grade 9 in 2001 or after.
{**3, 2, 1** means: 3 science courses, two of them Regents exam courses, and you must pass at least one of those two Regents exams (65)}
 - a) Two of the three science courses must be Regents science courses that culminate with a New York State Regents Exam. One of these two must be The Living Environment (Regents Biology), which is offered primarily at the 10th grade level. The other must be selected from Regents Earth Science, Chemistry, or Physics, which make up the Physical Setting group.
 - b) Most school districts in New York State offer **The Physical Setting: *Earth Science*** primarily at the 9th grade year, since it does not require the higher level math skills of some of the other Regents science courses.
 - c) The third science course can be selected from the Physical Setting group of Regents science courses, or may be a science elective offered by the school.
2. Course material is set by New York State
 - a) 14 topics
 - b) **Reference Table** is provided... used with all quizzes and tests. Bring it to class **EVERY DAY**.
 - c) Will use, **A BREIF REVIEW IN EARTH SCIENCE** as a text. Students may also purchase their own copy directly from Prentice-Hall at current cost. (1-800-848-9500)
 - 1) all material covered well
 - 2) excellent source of Regents-style questions
 - 3) **Students are responsible for textbooks issued to them at the beginning of the year!**

B. Lab requirement

1. Minimum of 1,200 minutes required by New York State (in addition to regular classroom instruction) held every other day, usually opposite gym class
2. Satisfactory lab completion **required** to in order to take the Regents exam in June (Attendance policy *does* include attendance in science lab.)
3. Completed lab write-ups are saved for one full year, to be made available upon request by the State Education Department Board of Regents

C. Lab Performance Test

1. Based on your ability to do 3 rather involved Earth Science lab procedures
2. Counts as 15% of the Regents Earth Science exam in June

II. Daily class work

A. **Notes are to be taken from the outline handed out.** **(NOT to be copied during class, though)**

B. Small group work/discussion ... must be done in a serious manner

C. Materials needed in class with you **EVERY DAY**...

1. notebook for the year
2. 2 a two-pocket folders (one for in class, one for in locker)
3. pencil or pen
4. **EARTH SCIENCE REFERENCE TABLES** (*must have*)

D. For the benefit of all learners in the room, **PROPER CLASS BEHAVIOR** must be displayed by students at all times.

III. Grading

A. Grades are calculated on the computer, and reported every 5-weeks

B. A student's grade will be based on:

1. **UNIT TESTS** - several per 10-weeks, with weighting of 45%
2. **Outline notes** – checked before each unit test, with total weighting of 20%
3. **Quizzes** - about 1 or 2 per week, with weighting of 15%
4. **Labs** - satisfaction completion of the lab (non-graded) requirement is *determined solely by the lab instructor.*
5. **Homeworks** - usually 1 per week, with a total weighing of 20%
6. **Extra credit report** - *optional* for students wishing to do one, limit one per 10-weeks, due no later than the Friday before the end of that marking period. It will have the same weight as a unit test.

Science project - 1 per year (**MARCH 2nd, 2010**). It will have the same weight as 2 unit tests for that marking period.