

INTEGRATED SCIENCE: GENERAL CLASS INFO

Mr. Smith

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Unscheduled Hours: MWF Periods 3, 6
Tues Period 3, 4
Thurs Period 3, 4, 6

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to Integrated Science at Arapahoe High School! This class will hopefully be a fun and challenging introduction to the science department at AHS. This course integrates several different science content areas in an exploration of various Earth-science topics, in order to introduce you to important relationships between different content areas, and also to prepare you for more in-depth study of those content areas in their subsequent years of high school. As you explore the topics of the course, you will also be challenged to improve important skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, graphing, and data collection and analysis. In addition to all of those science-related skills, you will also be asked to use this class as an opportunity to practice responsibility, time management, and independent learning.

Learning Goals: As a result of completing Integrated Science, students will be able to...

- explain that energy is neither created nor destroyed, but may be transformed between different forms and transferred between different objects.
- recognize the interrelatedness of complex Earth processes, and also of science content areas such as chemistry, physics, and biology.
- give several examples of human impact on the environment, and explain examples of scientific research into energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.
- use critical-thinking skills to solve problems based on real-world applications, including problems involving substitution of values into formulas, problems requiring multiple steps of thought and calculation, and problems involving the factor-label method of converting units.
- follow directions to collect data in an experimental setting, correctly graph that data, and come to conclusions about the experiment based on analysis of the data.

MATERIALS:

Please come to class each day with the following materials:

Three-Ring Binder

Loose-Leaf Paper

Colored Pencils

Scientific Calculator

Writing Utensil

Metric Ruler

Being unprepared for class will result in a more difficult time for your progress in learning, and could also result in disciplinary action if a pattern is established.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN CLASS:

- Bring materials to class every day and participate actively in class.
- Use your student calendar to write down assignments and important dates.
- Keep your notes, handouts, and graded assignments organized in a 3-ring binder.
- Do your homework as it is assigned, and bring it back to class with you to turn in on time.
- Use lab class as an important opportunity to learn more about concepts from class.
- Plan to visit the science office regularly to get help outside of class. You can see Mr. Smith before or after school or during his unscheduled hours (see top of page), but you can also ask any other teachers for help. Anyone in the science office would love to help you! Specifically, other Integrated Science teachers would be the best other resources. These teachers are Mr. Boyce, Ms. Durow, Mr. Hammond, and Mrs. Larson.

- Use Mr. Smith’s website as a resource, especially to get caught up when you’re absent.
- Do honest work in class. The point of class is for you to learn, and copying from someone else’s work does not help you learn. Cheating will result in a zero on the assignment, and could result in additional consequences. See pages 30-31A in your student calendar for more information.

COURSE PROCEDURES:

Behavior: Our classroom will be a professional learning environment. In other words, when you are in my class, your job is to learn. Your behavior should be a reflection of this responsibility. Act like an adult, listen, participate, and treat each other with respect. Hats, food, drinks, cell phones, and other electronic devices should be put away in class, unless indicated otherwise by a teacher for a specific activity. If these items are out during class, they will be taken and given to an administrator, to be picked up by a parent.

Attendance: Because we build on previous knowledge, and because we only meet as a class three times a week, being present in class is crucial. If you are absent, see me as soon as possible for make up work, and utilize the class webpage as a resource to see what you missed. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed! For an excused absence, you have as many days as you missed to complete and turn in the work. For a pre-arranged excused absence (i.e. field trips, band trips, athletic event) you must turn in assignments, projects, and complete test/quizzes before you leave.

Tardies: It is my expectation that you are on time to class. If being tardy becomes an issue, we will take the following steps: 1. Warning/discussion, 2. Phone call home, 3. Referral.

Late Work: It is my belief that the work you are assigned is an important part of the learning process, and that it must be completed in a timely fashion in order to be of utmost help to you in learning. Therefore, late work is only accepted on a case-by-case basis, and will cause a penalty to your grade on that assignment. Keep in mind, however, that an assignment completed late is definitely better than an assignment that is never completed.

Lab: Regular lab experiments for this class happen one period during the week where you report specifically for the lab component of this class. Your lab instructor(s) may be different from Mr. Smith, but your labs are all graded by Mr. Smith as part of your Integrated Science course work. Lab each week should be a great opportunity to really practice and expand ideas discussed during MWF lecture class. It is expected that you follow all lab safety guidelines discussed by your lab instructor. Please be on time to lab, since you will lose 25% from that week’s lab grade if you are tardy. If you happen to be absent from a lab, you can either make it up during a Tues/Thurs unscheduled period, or you must attend **makeup lab on Monday at 2:20pm in room W102.**

GRADING:

Grades should not be the ultimate goal in this class, but feedback about your progress towards the ultimate goal of knowing and understanding the science of our class. In an attempt to communicate with students and parents about this progress, and to accurately measure this progress, weighted categories will be used in determining a student’s grade. Assignments, activities, labs, projects, tests, and quizzes will all then fall under one or more of these categories during grading. These categories are: Responsibility (10%), Learning Activities (10%), Labs (15%), Quizzes & Tests (50%), Final Exam (15%). Ultimately, your final semester grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

A+	99-100	B-	80-81.9	D+	68-69.9
A	92-97.9	C+	78-79.9	D	62-67.9
A-	90-91.9	C	72-77.9	D-	60-61.9
B+	88-89.9	C-	70-71.9	F	59.9 & below
B	82-87.9				

Like all classes at Arapahoe, your grades are available to view online:
<https://campus.lps.k12.co.us/campus/portal/littleton.jsp>