



# Valencia High School

## Earth Science Course Syllabus

**Mr. Davis**

**Phone** – (661) 294-1188 ext: 812

**Room 812**

**E-mail:** [adavis@hartdistrict.org](mailto:adavis@hartdistrict.org)

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Welcome to Earth Science! I am very pleased and excited about having you in my class this year. We are going to have a great time. In Earth Science we will study all the sciences that collectively seek to understand Earth and its many processes. Through the process of lectures, labs/demonstrations, activities, videos, and class discussion, students will learn about Earth's processes, including its history, atmosphere, geomorphic features and processes, and environmental factors. As we begin the school year, it is important for you to know my expectations. Below, I have outlined crucial information about the class dynamics and my expectations. By signing this class contract, you acknowledge your value as a member of this class and accept the responsibilities of being a member. I look forward to getting to know you this year and hope you will find Earth Science to be a challenging but rewarding experience.

### Daily Routines

- Class will begin as soon as the bell rings.
- As soon as you sit down, write the new homework assignment into your schedule.
- Silently begin the warm-up that is written on the board or overhead.
- Please remember that the bell does not dismiss you. I do!

### Class Rules

- Be prepared, seated, and ready to work when the bell rings.
- Please have no food or drinks in the classroom (bottled water is okay).
- Be respectful towards all member of the class..
- Do not use any distracting objects in class (cell phones, i-pods, grooming objects, etc.).
- Please bring required materials each day.

### Textbook and Materials

The textbook used is *Earth Science, by McDougall and Littell*. If you lose the book or would like to purchase a copy for home, please contact me and I will help you arrange the purchase.

It will be required that you bring the following materials to class everyday:

- Pencil and Pen (2 each)
- 3-ring binder for notes.
- Lined paper

### Homework

Homework is an extension of theories discussed in the classroom and is essential to your success. Be sure to keep up with the work because it represents a considerable portion of your overall grade.

- Homework is due the NEXT day at the **beginning** of class.

- Late homework will be deducted by 25%. Please make sure that you get your homework in on time.
- Remember, it is your responsibility to make sure you get the missed homework assignments. In accordance with District policy, students will be allowed to complete assignments missed from an excused absence. For example, if a student is sick (1) day, they will be given (1) additional day to complete any missing work.
- Homework will be graded by both the teacher and peers, depending upon the assignment.

### **Grading Policy**

- Grades are earned on a system of point accumulation based on quizzes/warm-ups, homework/projects, labs, tests, and class participation. The grading scale will be as follows:

100-94% of total possible points	= A	77-74% = C
93-90%	= A-	73-70% = C-
89-88%	= B+	69-68% = D+
87-84%	= B	67-64% = D
83-80%	= B-	63-55% = D-
79-78%	= C+	54%-0% = Fail

Grades are posted online about every two or three weeks. The key that explains the abbreviations used on the grade sheets is also posted online.

### **Academic Integrity**

The Valencia High School Science Department's *Academic Integrity* policy is consistent with the William S. Hart Union High School District Board Policy based on Education Code 44806.

### **Attendance Policy**

Daily attendance is very important to your success in class. The school's attendance and tardy policy will be in effect in this class. Please remember, per school policy, any student absent 15 days or more (excused or unexcused) may receive a failing grade. If you think you will be out more than 15 days, please contact me to discuss the situation.

### **Teacher Contact Information and Conference Period**

- My conference period during the day is Period 2, from 8:01 – 8:56 am.
- You may reach me by phone by dialing (661) 294-1188 ext. 812 or by email at: [adavis@hartdistrict.org](mailto:adavis@hartdistrict.org). Email is probably the fastest way to contact me.
- The class webpage is <http://staff.hartdistrict.org/adavis/index.html>. I frequently post grades on the website, so please check and contact me if you have any concerns.
- I will establish a parent email list after the first few weeks of class. I usually email parents before tests to let them know of the test date, posted study guides, and when I hold my test prep classes after school to help students prepare for the tests.
- **Parents**, please contact me by phone or email if you have any questions about your child's grade and/or performance in my class.

*Please sign and return this page to indicate that you have read and understand the information provide in this syllabus. Additional copies are available upon request.*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (Mom) \_\_\_\_\_ (Dad) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*ADDITIONAL INFORMATION\*\*\***

**Please describe below if there is anything you would like me to know about your student.**