

**Course Syllabus**

Earth Science I &amp; II

Course Code: 0362 &amp; 0363

Credit: 5 semester hours

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**Textbook:** Pearson Earth Science, Tarbuck and Lutgens; 2017**Course Overview & Big Ideas**

Earth Science is a yearlong course (10 credits) – divided into two semesters (5 credits each)

1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Topics	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Topics
-INTRO UNIT	-ASTRONOMY
-MINERALS	-WATER RESOURCES
-BEDROCK GEOLOGY (ROCKS)	-OCEANS
-VOLCANOES	-WEATHER
-PLATE TECTONICS	-ENERGY RESOURCES
-EARTHQUAKES	
-TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS	

**Methods and Procedures:** Reading is a crucial component to understanding the themes addressed in this Earth Science class. Developing writing skills is also a major focus. Additionally, math and graphing skills are also regularly emphasized and practiced. Students will also use lab activities to understand each of the themes addressed in this Earth Science class. Because students will regularly conduct lab activities, the process of science will connect the themes covered in this course. A notebook will be used to learn organizational skills that are necessary for success in college and careers.

**Notebook:** Mr. Butera will provide each student with a lab notebook. Students are required to bring notebooks to class every day. Notebooks will be checked and graded about once a month. Students that misplace their notebooks are should talk to Mr. Butera immediately about their options to replace their notebook. Waiting more than a day or two could result in missing work and negatively impact the student's grade.

**Homework:** Students typically receive 1-3 homework assignments each week. Homework typically involves reading and writing assignments using the web-based Earth Science Textbook; these are often completed on Google classroom and submitted electronically. Students are often required to finish labs and class activities for homework as well. Due dates are always discussed in class and posted on the Google calendar, that is posted on the class website. Late Homework is accepted for fifty percent off the grade earned (see make-up).

Unsolicited electronic submissions of assignments are not accepted.

**Test/Quiz:** Tests and quizzes will be given periodically as the need arises. Quizzes may be scheduled as often as every Friday. Notice of upcoming quizzes is always given at least two days in advance. Tests will be given after completing each chapter or unit of the text. Students will receive at least two days' notice before a test or quiz. However, students are usually given several weeks' notice for tests and it is posted on the Google calendar on the class website. If the student misses a test due to an absence, the student needs to make up the test as soon as they return to school.

**Final Exam:** Students are also required to take the Earth science final exam, which is weighted as 15% of the student's semester average.

**Make-up:** It is the student's responsibility to find out what make-up work they have. The student needs to come in on their own-time usually during lunch or after school. Also, Mr. Butera's Earth science website is a great resource for finding out what happened in class while they were absent. It is especially important to make-up labs immediately upon returning to school because they will only be set-up for a few days after the initial lab period. Students have the number of days they were absent, plus one day to complete make-up work (DPS Policy). If the absence is unexcused the work may be accepted but for 50% off the grade. If the student missed the class but was at school that day, all assignments due that day are still required to be turned in. If the assignments are turned in the next day, the work is considered late at 50% off.

Mr. Butera has no obligation to give out make-up work during the passing period or during class instruction. If the student was present the day of an assignment and failed to complete and turn in the assignment by the due date, Mr. Butera has no obligation to provide another copy of the assignment. Mr. Butera does not usually accept work that is more than a week late. You may speak to Mr. Butera if you have encountered a hardship and wish to request more time to complete an assignment. Because of the high volume of assignments in this Earth Science Class, it is very important to stay organized and do all of the assignments when they are assigned to avoid falling behind.

**3 GOOD WEEKS AT THE END OF A SEMESTER CANNOT MAKE UP FOR 15 BAD WEEKS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER.**

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### **Expectations for Appropriate Student Conduct**

A GENERAL GUIDE TO STUDENT CONDUCT IS SUMMARIZED WITH THE 5 P'S  
5 P'S – POSITIVE, POLITE, PREPARED, PROMPT, PRODUCTIVE

STUDENTS WHO INTERFERE WITH OR DISRUPT THE LEARNING PROCESS WILL RECEIVE  
VERBAL WARNINGS & CALLS HOME.

In addition, student/parent/teacher meetings, student/administrator/teacher meetings, student/administrator/teacher/parent meetings, as well as lunch and after school detentions will be used as interventions to address student behavior.

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**Grades:** Grades are based on a combination of homework, class assignments, labs, notebooks, and tests. Tests count for a quarter of the entire grade. Notebooks usually count for another quarter of the entire grade. Classwork, lab assignments, and homework account for the remaining half of the entire grade.

The grading scale in this class follows:

A 90-100%                      B 80-89%                      C 70-79%                      D 60-69%                      F-59% and below

A minimum average of 60% is required to earn credit for each semester (5 credits per semester 10 credits total). 30 credits of science are required to graduate from a DPS high school. Each semester grade will be on your official high school transcript. Additionally, these grades are also factored into your grade point average. College admissions officials review this type of information as they consider a student's candidacy for acceptance into a college and university.

**Class Website:** To visit the Earth Science class website go to the following URL:

<http://bbutera.tjsspartans.org/>

THE EARTH SCIENCE CLASS WEBSITE IS UPDATED DAILY AND IS A VERY USEFUL TOOL FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS.

**Infinite Campus:** Infinite Campus (IC) is the Denver Public Schools Internet based gradebook and information system. Teachers post student grades on IC. Students are expected to use IC to stay informed about their academic progress. Because IC is an Internet based system you can access your grade from any computer with an Internet connection. If you do not have a computer at home, you can use the computers in the Mr. Butera's classroom to check your grade during lunch or after school.