**Earth Science 8 Extended**

**North Salem High School 2014-2015**

**Dr. Murphy / Mrs. Frohman– E214**

**Course Information**

 Earth Science is a name that collectively seeks to understand the Earth, its physical processes, and its neighbors in space. Topics include meteorology, astronomy, geology and oceanography. The course integrates the New York State Regents and Common Core Standards appropriate to content.

Students in the Earth Science 8 course will be beginning the first few units of the Regents Earth Science / Physical Setting curriculum. The remainder of the curriculum of will be completed as the students loop into Earth Science 9 next year. The course, taught over two years, is designed to be instructed and learned at a manageable, “hands-on” pace to ensure retention and understanding of content and academic success. Eighth grade students will not be taking the Regents exam until the completion of their 9th grade year; however, they will be taking the Intermediate Level Science Exam.

**Intermediate Level Science Exam (ILS)** - This exam consists of two parts, a writing portion and a lab practical portion. Both portions of this exam will be given sometime in May/June, 2015. This exam will cover concepts from 5th through 8th grade science. Emphasis on test taking strategies, skills in scientific concepts, and content review will be covered in the fourth quarter in preparation for this.

**Lab Requirement-** Students in the Earth Science 8 course will beparticipating in lab experiences that will be used to fulfill the Regents lab requirement for the completion of the course in 9th grade. Regents level science courses place a high emphasis on lab participation, engagement, and synthesis of information. In order to be successful in their ninth grade course, and sit for the Regents exam in 2016, **students will be expected to complete all labs this year, which include lab write-ups.** Adequate time for lab completion and write-up will be provided in class. Students who are absent for an extended period (2+ days) will be require to take on the personal responsibility of making up their labs during after school help.

**Texts**

* Earth Science (Holt, McDougal). Textbook will be utilized as a reference and support in class and for homework assignments. Student copy may be kept at home**. Books must be returned for the summer**. They will be re-assigned in 9th grade.

**Supplies**

**Students are expected to bring the following supplies to class daily:**

* A 3-ring binder **or** folder to use **only** for Earth Science, w/ Paper
* Pencil/ Pen (mandatory each day, student will lose participation points if they consistently come unprepared to class)

\*\***The following may be needed to complete homework assignments:** Metric ruler, calculator, protractor, and colored pencils/markers

**Course Evaluation and Grading Policy**

**Your final grade for the year will be the average of :**

4 quarters averaged = 80% of final grade Final Exam/State Exam/Project= 20% of final grade

Quarter Grades are calculated on a weighted average system using different categories:

**Exams**/**Quizzes 40%** **Labs 25% Classwork/Homework 25% Participation 10%**

**Exams & Quizzes** – includes all tests and quizzes given during class time. Exams will be announced at least 5 days in advance. Quizzes will occur at intervals between exams. Quizzes will receive at least 2 day advance announcement. **If a student misses a test or quiz, it is expected that they will take it the next day that they arrive to class. Extensions are only made for extended absences (3 days or more).**

**Labs** – Includes, but not limited to, any experiments, hands-on activities, or video labs. Evaluated by a lab write-up, or reflection. **Labs are due the day following the day the lab was completed in class. Late points will be taken for labs turned in more than a week late. (10 points a week).** Students who are absent for an extended period (2+ days) will be required to take on the personal responsibility of making up their labs during after school help. **Students must make up these labs within two weeks of their return to school or they forfeit the opportunity to receive lab credit.**

**Class Work –** Includes review work, group exercises, article analysis, and other assignments designed to be completed during productive class time. **If a student misses an assignment, they can collect it for a make-up.**

**Homework** – includes assignments given as work to be completed outside of class time. There will be one standing homework that will be assigned on Mondays, and will be due on Friday. In addition, any work (including labs) not completed in class will be considered homework. It is up to you to remember to ask for homework if you were absent on a Monday. It is also up to you to remember to turn in homework if you were absent on a Friday. **Late work will be marked down 2 points per day for up to 2 weeks.**

**Participation -** Participation is a crucial part of this course. There are many ways to participate. It does not mean that you have to offer a comment in class to get credit. It means: **Be in attendance (**you lose participation for too many absences**), be on time, stay attentive, be involved with your lab group (**sitting back and having one person do all the work will cause you to lose points**), and show a respectful attitude to your classmates and the learning that is happening in class (i.e.** excessive talking will cause you to lose points**).**

**Make-Up Work**

 It is the ***responsibility of the student*** to ask for and make-up any missed assignments. Deadlines for make-ups will be no more than **two weeks** after the student has returned to class. (*So don’t ask at the end of the quarter if you can make up work from 8 weeks prior…)* When possible, alternate assignments may be made available to substitute for those who missed the deadline due to an extended legal absence.

**Classroom and Student Expectations**

1. All school rules apply concerning attendance, tardiness, passes, electronic devices, and appropriate attire. In order to be a role model citizen of the school community I cannot ‘break’ school rules for you. Please do not ask me to allow you to be an exception to the rule.
2. E214 is a science room used by different science teachers throughout the day. Due to safety and health reasons there is no eating in the room. Plan your meals and snacks accordingly.
3. **So what is different about Dr. Murphy’s/ Mrs. Frohman’s class than all the others? What do I need to know about their expectations?**
	1. **Extra Help**: Dr. Murphy is available for extra help after school on Tue/Thurs, 2:15-2:55 in W-27. Mrs. Frohman is available Tue/Thur 2:15-2:55 in Room E218

* 1. **Grade Reports:** Dr. Murphy gives out grade reports approximately every 2 weeks. This is to help you stay aware of how you are doing in this class. Please review them, make adjustments to your work habits, and communicate your progress with your parents.

* 1. **Labs:** Labs will be conducted throughout the week. Usually every other day or so. Lab write-ups are due **on the following day after completion in class**. **Labs that are turned in late will be accepted so that the students may make the state lab requirement, but late points may be deducted depending on the situation.**
		1. **Lab Safety**: Lab safety contracts will be reviewed and need to be signed by both parent/guardians and the students*. Students who demonstrate unsafe or dangerous behavior in the lab setting will forfeit any further involvement in lab exercises.*

* 1. **What if I am absent for a few days?**
		1. E-mail, or have your parents e-mail Ms. Murphy at kmurphy@northsalemschools.org or Mrs. Frohman at jfrohman@northsalemschools.org .
		2. Plan on staying after school a few days after you return to school to ‘catch up’

* 1. **Can I make corrections to assignments or tests?**
		1. Test corrections are suggested, however, **the test grade stands as is**. There are no opportunities to correct the Regents exam… so I don’t want you to modify your study habits because you think you will get to ‘make corrections if you do poorly’.
		2. Most people learn by correcting mistakes. You are encouraged to correct your own work for your personal benefit. **In some cases, but not all, corrections with grade adjustments will be allowed for labs, homework, and classwork.**
	2. **What are the consequences if I am disruptive to the learning that is happing in class?**
		1. **If** classroom expectations are not met, results include **any** of the following:
			1. Verbal warning, parent contact, and/or a ‘chat’ after class
			2. Referral to Principal’s office with required parent contact
		2. **Persistent class disruptions that hinder the learning of others will lead to your removal from the course (See Code of Conduct Handbook).**

**Content**

The following is a guideline for the material that will be covered throughout the school year. Course topics will integrate New York State Regents practice and labs experiences.

 **Prologue: Science Skills**

* What is Earth Science? \* Scientific Method \* Observations, Inferences, and Measurement \* Exponential Notation and Percent Error \* Graphic Relationships \* Density

**Structure of the Dynamic Earth**

* The Size and Shape of Earth \* The Structure of Earth \* Locating Positions on Earth (Latitude/Longitude and Directions) \* Using Scale \* Fields, Topographic Maps, Map reading \* Gradient and Profiles

**Minerals, Rocks, and Resources**

* Mineral Resources \* Mineral Identification \* Rock (types, formation, and origin) \* Rock Cycle

The teacher reserves the right to amend any part of or this entire course syllabus during the 2013-2014 school year.

**Helpful Internet Sites**

<http://murphy.northsalem.site.eboard.com/>

[www.learnearthscience.com](http://www.learnearthscience.com)

[www.earthscienceregents.com](http://www.earthscienceregents.com)

[www.regentsprep.org](http://www.regentsprep.org)

If I come to class and do my work, I will pass!

8th Grade Earth Science

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

I have read the course the syllabus for Earth Science 8 and I understand the requirements and expectations along with my responsibilities regarding:

 - Grading Policy \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

 - Lab Requirement \_\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

 - Lab make-ups \_\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

 - Lab safety \_\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

- Homework/Participation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The above provided email will be used to include you in my weekly emails regarding class activities, assignments, and upcoming tests. Weekly emails are usually sent every Thursday. If you do not wish to receive weekly emails please indicate that here.

\_\_\_ I do **NOT** wish to receive weekly emails regarding 8th Grade Earth Science.

\*\*Please tear off this last page and turn in by Monday, September 8.\*\*