

# 9th Grade Earth Systems

Miss Whitworth Room W-10

[blog.wsd.net/amwhitworth/](http://blog.wsd.net/amwhitworth/)

## Course Description

Earth Systems Science provides students with an understanding of how the parts of the Earth's major systems interact. Students will learn how to explain cosmic and global phenomena in terms of interactions of energy, matter and life. Throughout this course students experience science as a way of knowing based on textual research, making observations, gathering data, designing experiments, making inferences, drawing conclusions and communicating results.

## Required Materials

Students need to have a **binder or folder** to keep their work in. They need to bring this everyday and are required to save their work for the whole term. They also need to have a **pen or pencil, notebook or loose-leaf paper** to take notes, **colored pencils**, and a **calculator**.

## Class Rules

1. Be on time and **IN YOUR SEAT** when the bell rings.
2. Respect people and property. Please do not write on desks, misuse equipment, bother other students or their property, litter the classroom, etc. Do not roughhouse in the classroom.
3. Stay in your assigned seat and work with the people in your group.
4. Be prepared for class with the needed materials.
5. Follow the teacher's directions. Pay attention when I am giving classroom instruction and work when you are given work time.

## Grades

A citizenship grade will be given as well as an academic grade. Citizenship will measure the student's behavior in class and their acceptance to the class rules. Academic grades are assigned based on weighted averages of your homework, tests and quizzes, and participation.

Tests and quizzes .....	60%
Homework and assignments .....	30%
Participation .....	10%

## Grading Scale

93-100% .....	A	73-76% .....	C
90-92% .....	A-	70-72% .....	C-
87-89% .....	B+	67-69% .....	D+
83-86% .....	B	63-66% .....	D
80-82% .....	B-	58-62% .....	D-
77-79% .....	C+	0-57% .....	F

Tests will be given at the end of each unit or subunit. You will have the opportunity to retake a test up to **one week** after the test is given. You may come in before or after school or during advisory. The first time you retake a test the highest score you can get is 90%. The second time you retake the highest score you can get is 80% and so on. **It is best if you come prepared to do well on the test the first day it is given.** If you are absent the day a test is given, you have one week to make it up before or after school or during advisory. Quizzes will be given throughout each unit and most will be open book or open note.

Homework and assignments include worksheets from the book reading and class notes. Much of this work will be done in class. If your homework is turned in without a name it may be thrown away. Work may be graded by other students in the class.

Students will be actively participating in class by doing bell work, labs and working in groups with other class members.

### **Make-up Work and Late Work**

If you have an excused absence you will have one week to complete the work. After that it will be considered late work. Any **unexcused late work** can be turned in with a late card for full credit. You will get two late cards each quarter. If you turn in an assignment late without a late card it will not be corrected. Any late cards not used by the end of the quarter can be turned in for extra credit; 15 points each. If you miss a day when notes are taken it is your responsibility to get those notes from someone.

### **Tardies**

Being tardy to class will affect your citizenship grade so DON'T BE LATE.

Three tardies = N

Five tardies = U

More than 5 tardies = administrative action

### **Textbooks**

Each student will be issued a textbook to be used throughout the year. You need to bring your book to class EVERYDAY. You are responsible for your book and you may be fined at the end of the year for any damage done to the book.

### **Equipment**

There will be labs throughout the year and we will be using a lot of equipment. Students who “goof off” during a lab will be asked to sit down and will not receive credit for the lab.

**\*\*\*Students will be responsible for the cost of any damage incurred by misuse of the lab or classroom equipment including any replacement costs\*\*\***