

COURSE TITLE: **Earth Systems**

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## **Forsyth County Schools Course Syllabus 2020/2021**

**Course Description:** Earth Systems Science is designed to continue student investigations that began in K-8 Earth Science and Life Science curricula and investigate the connections among Earth's systems through Earth history. These systems – the atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, and biosphere – interact through time to produce the Earth's landscapes, ecology, and resources. This course develops the explanations of phenomena fundamental to the sciences of geology and physical geography, including the early history of the Earth, plate tectonics, landform evolution, the Earth's geologic record, weather and climate, and the history of life on Earth.

**Standards:** *Course Standards can be found at [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org) or you can post them on your webpage and/or offer a copy to parents. Students and parents must be made aware of how you will provide standards and how they can gain access to them.*

**Availability for Extra Help:** *I am available for help sessions any morning (that I don't have a meeting) starting at 7:30am. I am available any afternoon (as long as I don't have a meeting) but would prefer that students make appointments for afternoon help.*

**Makeup Work:** *Make up work is defined as work assigned during a student's absence, not work assigned prior to an absence. The student has five (5) school days upon returning to school to complete make-up work. The teacher has the discretion to grant a longer period to make up work, if there are extenuating circumstances.*

### **Grading Calculations:**

**Non-EOC Course Average** = 50% (1<sup>st</sup> Sem. Course Work) + 50% (2<sup>nd</sup> Sem. Course Work)  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Course Work = 75% Summative + 25% Formative

### **Grading Policy:**

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

Failing = Below 70

*Formative Assessments include, but are not limited to homework, class work, practice tests, rough drafts, and sections of projects/research papers/presentations.*

*Summative Assessments include, but are not limited to unit tests, final projects, final essays, final research papers, and final presentations.*

**Learning Resources/Textbook(s):** All learning resources, both print and digital, are meant to support and enhance the student learning experience of this class. Below are the names of the textbooks and websites that will be used in this course. Some of the web-based resources require parent permission per federal regulations. Federal laws that guide parent permission requirements are as follows:

- **Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA):** The school is required by CIPA to have technology measures and policies in place that protect students from harmful materials including

those that are obscene and pornographic. Any harmful content contained within inappropriate sites will be blocked. <http://fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>

- **Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA):** COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13years of age. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. <https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/complying-coppa-frequently-asked-questions-0>
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review records. Under FEPRa, schools may disclose directory information in certain circumstances. <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Please review the resource list. Each website related to the curriculum resources is provided along with their privacy policies. Should you have any questions regarding these resources immediately contact the course teacher via email or phone.

Name of Resource*	Digital	Privacy Policy
Earth Science - Holt, Rinehart & Winston Glencoe (2008)	<a href="#">Digital Access</a> On-level	<a href="#">Permissions</a>
Living in the Environment - Cengage (2014)	<a href="#">Owl Access</a> Advanced Placement	<a href="#">Permissions</a>
Georgia Virtual School	<a href="#">Environmental Science</a> On-level	<a href="http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/terms.aspx">http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/terms.aspx</a>
Discovery Education	<a href="#">Classlink Access</a> <a href="#">SEV1-5</a> <a href="#">Classlink Access</a> <a href="#">SES1-6</a>	<a href="#">Discovery Media</a> Terms of Use
NewsELA Environmental Science	<a href="#">Classlink Access</a> CLEVER	<a href="#">NewsELA Privacy Policy</a>

*\* The following resources are county approved. These resources may vary by school due to sequencing, pacing, curriculum design, and/or individual needs of students.*

Parent Initial for Approval **	Name of Resource	Website	Privacy Policy
	NSTA Podcast for the Classroom	<a href="#">Blick on Flicks</a>	<a href="#">Policy</a>
	M.I.T. OpenCourseware	<a href="#">M.I.T. Science, Technology, &amp; Society</a>	<a href="#">Privacy Policy</a>
	HHMI biointeractive	<a href="#">Classroom Resources</a>	<a href="#">Ed Framework In Progress</a>
	Explore Learning Gizmos and Simulations	<a href="https://www.explorelearning.com/">https://www.explorelearning.com/</a>	<a href="https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=ContentRoller.dspPrivacy">https://www.explorelearning.com/index.cfm?method=ContentRoller.dspPrivacy</a>
	Nearpod	<a href="#">Classlink Access</a>	

*\*\* The following resources are web-based resources that require parent permission. By signing the syllabus, the parent is approving these resources. Should you have any questions regarding any of these classroom resources, please contact your student’s teacher via email.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read this course syllabus and approve of its contents. I agree to allow my student to use each of the classroom resources listed in the learning resource section. I will support my student following the classroom expectations outlined in this course syllabus. I agree that I am the person who is legally allowed to consent for my student whose name is listed below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date