

Physical Science and Technology

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Course Description and Goals

Physical Science and Technology is a class that is designed to allow students to learn to use technological tools, design and build principles, and physical science concepts. Students will use computers, electronic instruments, wood and metal working tools, recording equipment, and chemical tests to examine the physical and chemical properties of the world around them. This class is team taught with Adam Kirsch.

Instructional Activities

Students should expect to spend time exploring the content through hands-on activities, lectures, readings, participating in laboratory experiments, working on group projects, and experiencing the nature of science through their own inquiry.

Assessment Procedures

Students will be assessed through their classwork, project work, homework, quizzes, and tests.

Grading Policy

Progress reports will be sent home every 9 weeks. Grades will be given each semester. Grades will be calculated as a straight percentage of your work; letter grades are determined by a standard 90/80/70/60 scale. The option of taking PST Pass/No Pass is available; however, this choice must be made with your instructor's permission within the first three weeks of the quarter.

Credit Denial Policy

Attendance and class participation are important parts of learning. Course credit denial is a possibility if students do not attend class. Credit denial in this course may occur when a student has accumulated five (5) unexcused absences and their grade has fallen below a 60%. Students and their parents/guardians will be informed in writing of the possibility of credit denial when a student has accumulated four (4) unexcused absences. Credit denial decisions will not be based on absences due to religious reasons, a student's disability, or an excused absence, as determined by district policy. Students who are failing a class at the time of credit denial will have an "F" entered on their transcript. No credit will be awarded for the course.

Corvallis School District Policy IKAD

Plagiarism Policy

The Plagiarism Policy for Crescent Valley High School will be followed in this course. Please see the student planner for details of this policy.

Drop Policy

All students are expected to complete the required steps, as described in the CVHS Science Department Drop Policy, before they will be allowed to drop a science class.

Tardy Policy

All students are expected to be in the room and in their seats by the time class starts or they will be marked tardy. Students who accumulate three or more tardies may be given a detention.

Attendance Policy

Absences should be kept to a minimum. It is very difficult to keep up with the content covered in this course without being present for lectures, labs, and class activities. Chronic attendance issues will result in an attendance contract. All absences must be excused through the attendance office by a parent or guardian within 48 hours. After that, your absence is considered unexcused. Make-up work will not be accepted for unexcused absences. Make-up tests will not be administered to students for unexcused absences.

Excused Absences: Work that is late due to an excused absence will not be penalized but should be made up immediately upon return. For each day that you are absent, you will get one extra day to turn in your missed work. If you miss a test due to an excused absence, you should plan to take the test within one day of your return. Please schedule the time of make-up tests or labs with the instructor.

Late Work Policy

Work that is turned in within 24 hours after an assignment's due date will be accepted but graded with a 30% deduction. Students will be given no credit for work turned in after this period of time. Students with excused absences will be granted one day for each day absent to submit work. Extensions may be made to this policy when reasonable; please arrange any extensions prior to the due date of the assignment. Tests missed due to an excused absence must be made up within 48 hours of the student's return.

Personal Electronics Policy

For safety and instructional reasons, the use of personal electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, mp3 players, gaming devices, etc) will not be allowed in the classroom. Devices observed in class will be confiscated. For the first offense, students will be able to pick up their device from an administrator in the front office at the end of the day. Repeat offenses may result in the device(s) being held in the office for an extended period of time.

Students are permitted to have their own laptops in class for school work unless it becomes a distraction. Students may obtain from the CVHS science department a copy of the Vernier Technology's Logger Pro software for use while they are enrolled in this course.

Classroom Behavior Expectations

Students in PST are expected to manage their behavior and conduct themselves as adults. Students who disrupt the learning environment will be placed on a behavior contract and/or removed from class.

Students will be expected to read, understand, and sign the safety contract before participating in any lab activities. Students are expected to stay in the classroom during the instructional period.

