

Space Science is a weighted, *writing intensive* non-lab science course. It will focus on things that are beyond our planet. This will be accomplished through daily homework, independent research, analyzing case studies, weekly quizzes and tests.

Upon completion of the course students will have a better understanding of how the universe functions, the components of the universe, and our place in it.

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## Expectations

During this class students will be expected to bring with them a notebook, exclusively for this class, and their textbook with them daily. Taking notes is a required portion of the class and notebooks will be collected at least eight (8) times a year for a grade.

In addition, there will be eight (8) six page research papers that are due throughout the course. That is described in detail later and in a separate hand out we will go through as a class tomorrow.

There will be Quizzes at the end of each topic, and tests to follow completion of each chapter. Final exams are cumulative and described in more detail below.

There will be homework given each week.

## Grading Scale

The grading scale that will be used is the grading scale that has been established by the Virginia School Board and is published in the student handbook on page 16. As mentioned on page 16 this is not a course that contains a weighted numerical value. The grading scale on page 16 is the one that will be used for this class with NO EXCEPTIONS.

## Grading Components

- 30% Exams
- 30% Homework
- 10% Quizzes
- 30% Papers (2 per quarter, 15% each)

## Course Requirements

### Homework

There will be weekly homework assignments that will be expected to be completed. These assignments will range from worksheets to assignments out of the book. This will account for 30% of the total quarter grade.

## Tests

The format of the test will vary depending on the topic, but you can expect them to be longer versions of the quizzes.

## Quizzes

There will be a quiz at the end of topic. The type of quiz will vary from week to week. Types of quizzes could possibly be multiple choice, short answer, essay, or a combination of types. This will account for 10% of the total quarter grade.

## Papers

There will be a total of eight (8) six page term papers (not counting cover sheet or reference sheet) due for this class. One is due each quarter before midterms, the other is due the week before the quarter ends. Each one will use APA style as well as reference pages. Each one is worth 15% of your quarter grade (30%) total. More will be given on this tomorrow when we go through this portion of the class in detail.

Plagiarism is not going to be accepted. This includes submitting an entire report of cited quotes from various sources. Such work will be treated as if it was not submitted and given a zero. It is very easy to spot plagiarism.

## Final

There will be a cumulative final given during the appointed final exam time in the fall and spring. This final will cover in-depth all of the major topics that were covered during the semester. It will be valued at 20% of your second semester grade.

## Topics Covered.

The areas covered will include, but are not limited to:

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|----------------------|---|
| -Solar System        | -Life Cycle of stars                    |
| -Big Bang            | -Distances                              |
| -Gravity             | - Constellations                        |
| -Comparative Planets | - Asteroids, comets etc                 |
| -Universe            | - Exploration                           |
| -Galaxies            | - Future of space and space exploration |
| -Stars (types)       |   |