



Casa Grande Union High School

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Investigative Science Syllabus and Course Outline S. Y. 2020-2021

Course Name : **Investigative Science**

Teacher Name : **Annamae Jorda**

Teacher Contact information:

Email : **ajorda@cguhsd.org**
School Phone Number : **520 836 8500 ext. 3927**
Prep Period Time : **Period 2**
Room : **J207**

Welcome to Investigative Science!

In this class we will explore our planet and our place in the solar system. I am excited to be your teacher and honored to have you in class. I look forward to a fun, productive, and fruitful school year. Feel free to reach out if you have concerns or questions.

Materials

If there is any difficulty obtaining these materials, please let your teacher know as soon as possible.

- Laptop
- Earbuds
- Notebook
- Pencils and erasers
- Highlighters (any color)
- Colored pencils (suggested)

Grading Procedures

Quarter grades will be calculated from cumulative points per quarter from weighted categories. Semester grades will be calculated with each quarter being 40% and the final being the remaining 20%. Letter grades are assigned based on the scale listed below.

Grading Scale

A = 89.5% - 100%
 B = 79.5% - 89.4%
 C = 69.5% - 79.4%
 D = 59.5% - 69.4%
 F = 50% - 59.4%

Quarters grades are divided into weighted categories

30% Labs and simulations
 30% Assessments
 30% Classwork and HW
 10% Online Participation

Semester Grade Calculator

Quarter 1 40% = X
 Quarter 2 40% = Y
 Final Exam 20% = Z
 Semester Grade = X+Y+Z



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Checking your grades

It is **expected** that students and parents regularly access PowerSchool to check grades.

Microsoft Teams Rules (NETIQUETTE)

Every day to do list:

- Check and respond to email messages
- Check your calendar for meetings and office hours
- Log into Powerschool and check grades
- Log into blackboard and/or teams and complete your assignments.



General Netiquette

- Cite your source if you copy and paste.
- Be kind and forgiving about other people's mistakes
- have patience as we learn to work in this new virtual community
- Be positive and participate
- The rules, guidelines, and consequences of the RUA will be followed



In Teams Meeting

- Mute your microphone
- Remove distractions (silence your phone)
- Use video camera as much as possible
- Dress school appropriate
- Check your surrounding, remove any inappropriate items in the camera view
- Be on time
- Participate



Discussion Boards

- Don't write anything that sounds angry or sarcastic even as a joke. It is hard to "hear" tone in text
- Stay on topic
- Keep language appropriate
- Show respect to classmate's opinions. You can disagree, but do so with respect



LATE WORK

- Late work will be accepted for only one week after the due date. However, it will be reduced by 10% of the total points earned/day.
- It is your responsibility to complete and turn in work on time.

ABSENCES

- Refer to Casa Grande Unions High School's absence policy.
- You are responsible for asking for make-up work in the case of an excused absence.
- Once back you will have the same amount of absent days to complete the work and turn it in.



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Science Lab Notebook:

Each student will be required to keep all work for this class in a virtual notebook (Class Notebook in Teams). The virtual notebook will be used daily. Periodically, the lab notebook will be checked for organization and completeness using a rubric. It is the student's responsibility to keep their lab notebooks current.

All assignments, experiments, quizzes, test, projects, bell work are found in Blackboard or Microsoft Teams. Here are the descriptions for each folder

Classwork Activity and Assignments

- All worksheets are found here.
- A zero grade will be given for none submission.
- Late submission will be penalized.
- The grace period for late assignments is within 7 days
- No work no GRADE.

Bell Work

Absent students are not exempted from these Bell Work. A ZERO grade will be given after a week of no completion.

Quizzes

- Absent students are not exempted in taking quizzes. A zero grade will be given after a week of no completion.
- Quizzes are posted in BB
- Require LockDown Browser and passwords to access the Quizzes.

Projects

Project procedures and rubrics are found here

Lab Experiments (Virtual and Simulations)

Experiment procedures and data sheets are found here.

Unit Test

- Absent students are not exempted in taking the tests. A zero grade for a given test will take effect after a week of no completion.
- These tests will be part of the student Quarter Grade.

*Note: frequency of assessments and points are subject to change based on teacher discretion.



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FIRST SEMESTER COURSE OUTLINE

Course Content

Digital Classroom Orientation

1. Teacher Introduction
2. Classroom and Virtual Learning Rules
3. Grading System
4. Teams and Blackboard Orientation
5. Gizmos Orientation and Account Creation

Solar energy and its effect on weather and climate

1. Weather vs. climate
2. Effects of Latitude on Climate
3. Thermal Radiation
4. Convection
5. Conduction
6. Electromagnetic Radiation
7. Solar Energy and latitude
8. Solar Energy on Earth

Earth's Systems

1. Earth's Sphere's
2. The Earth System
3. Layers of the Earth
4. Conduction, Convection and Radiation

The Dynamic, Changing Earth

1. Plate Tectonics
 - a. Continental Drift Theory
 - b. Introduction to Plate Tectonics
 - c. Divergent and Convergent Plate Boundaries
 - d. Sea Floor Spreading
2. Radioactive Dating
3. Radiometric Dating
4. Principles of Radiometric Dating
5. Radiocarbon Dating
6. Predicting volcanic eruptions Earth Systems

Unit 5: The Effects of Humans on the Planet

1. Negative effects of Human Activities on the following:



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- a. Ecosystem
- b. Ocean
- c. Carbon Cycle
- d. Environment

Unit 6: Biodiversity and Ecosystems

- 1. Habitat and Niche
- 2. Limiting Factors
- 3. Carrying Capacity
- 4. Ecological Relationship
- 5. Ecological Succession

Unit 7: Energy and Matter Transfer in an Ecosystem

- 1. Photosynthesis
- 2. Respiration
- 3. Food Chain and Food Web
- 4. Trophic Levels
- 5. Energy Pyramid

I have read and understood the syllabus. Please e-sign as legibly as possible and take a screenshot of this portion and upload in Blackboard under reply slips. (Assignment worth 10 points).

Student (Print Name): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or legal guardian (please print name): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____