

Astronomy

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Feel free to contact me anytime to set up an appointment, I am here every A DAY.

Course Description:

Welcome to Astronomy! Astronomy is the study of the entire universe- from our small solar system, out to the furthest reaching galaxies. In this class we will cover a wide range of topics including: the lunar landings, the Big Bang, and why Pluto is not a planet.

Materials:

Text: *Universe*, by Freedman and Kaufmann
Notebook
Your inquisitive and open mind

Grades:

Grades are **earned** by **students**; not given by teachers. Grades are based on a student's performance and effort. If you work hard and show me how much you learn, you will earn a good grade. If you are having problems, come and talk to me.

Grading Scale:

%	Grade	%	Grade	%	Grade	%	Grade
94-100	A	84-86	B	74-76	C	64-66	D
93-90	A-	80-83	B-	70-73	C-	60-63	D-
87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	Below 60	F

Grade Breakdown:

Tests- After each unit there will be a test so that you can show just how much you know! These should be viewed as "Celebrations of Knowledge," you get to show off your skills to me! If you are caught cheating or are truant (unexcused absence) you will receive a "0" on that test. If you miss a test you will have **one week** to make it up. You can make up a test before or after school.

Projects- Projects will be assigned for each unit and will take more time and effort than a homework assignment. They will be given enough in advance to allow you time to finish the project adequately. Projects must be turned in on time to get full credit.

Assignments- In class we will complete many assignments/labs/quizzes. These will be turned in at the end of the class period. There will also be homework, which should be turned in at the beginning of the next period.

Participation- Each student starts with 50 participation points at the beginning of each term. However, you lose these points by misbehaving or missing class time (such as pervasive tardiness or unexcused absences). If you have a failing participation grade by the end of the semester, you will fail the class no matter your current percentage!

Extra Credit- There will be limited opportunities for extra credit. Extra credit can supplement a grade, but it will never replace consistent effort.

Late Work:

Late work will be accepted for 80% credit the day after it was due. Each subsequent class day that the work is not turned in, the credit will go down by 10% (for example an assignment turned in 2 days late will receive 70% credit, three days late 60% etc.) If you are absent, the work that was due while you were gone is due your first day back in class.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Both of these behaviors will not be tolerated in my class. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, you will automatically receive a “0” on that assignment/test/lab. If you allow someone else to cheat (allowing others to copy your work etc.) you will also receive a “0”. No exceptions! If I can “google” your work and find its source, it is considered plagiarism. For more information here is a great online reference: <http://www.plagiarism.org/>. If you have any questions feel free to come and talk to me.

Electronic Devices:

Absolutely NO electronic devices are allowed- they will be confiscated and returned at my discretion.

ATTENDANCE POLICY, DRESS CODE, & DISCRIMINATION

I follow all of the school policies as found in the student handbook. In addition, American Fork High School complies with the requirement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Therefore, no student shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, or disability. If you feel your rights have been violated, please contact Principal Weishar at 610-8800 ext 303. If you have a special need, please let me know and we can work out a plan to assist you.