Course Description: This course is a laboratory based science class in which you will explore the atmospheric processes and the water cycle; the solar system and universe; and the earth’s composition and structure.

Course Outline:
First Semester:
• Earth Systems: this unit will look at geology on a global scale as well as how geology has shaped Nevada. Students will learn about watersheds, mining in Nevada, and the processes involved.
• Human Sustainability: the Earth is full of natural resources, and in this unit students will learn how humans have learned to harness this energy and what the future of energy consumption holds.
Second Semester:
• Weather and Climate: describe how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth’s system result in changes in climate.
• Space Systems: this unit will focus on our solar system, galaxies, stars, and the universe.

Labs: There is a $10.00 lab fee. Laboratory experiences are a required part of this course. To participate in labs you must have your signed safety contract turned in and you must follow these rules at all times. Failure to do so will result in removal from lab and loss of grade. There are no make ups for labs.

Grades: Grades are based on a weighted system according to these categories: Participation, Class Work, and Final. Participation counts for 10% of your overall grade, your final counts for 20%. The remainder of your grade is dependent on your performance for each unit. Your final grade will be the grade you earn and will not be rounded.

Late Work: Work is due in completion on the designated due date. Work turned in late will be docked 10% for every day (not class period) it is late.
Absent: Work due on a day you are absent (excused) will be turned in the day you return for full credit. After this day it is considered late. You will have one day plus the number of days you are absent to complete absent work. Keep in mind these are days, not class period. After this time your work is late. Missed tests and quizzes must be completed within the absent work grace period.
*Check the class website and infinite campus for missed work.

Materials:
- Two (2) composition notebooks (available for purchase in class)
- Pencil
- Signed safety contract
- $10 LAB FEE paid to NVHS Bookkeeper. Please turn into the receipt to me as proof of payment.

Classroom Exceptions:
- All school rules will be followed as stated in the school student handbook.
- Students are expected to be in their seat and ready for class when the bell rings.
- Once the bell rings, read the bell ringer on the board and start working on the activity assigned
- Materials (composition book and pencil) must be brought to class each day.
- The laboratory and classroom must be clean at the end of the period before leaving.
- Absolutely NO food or drinks are allowed in the classroom or laboratory! (Bottled water is acceptable).
- Be respectful: Please do not get up to sharpen a pencil, throw away trash, use profanities, or talk while I or any other student is talking.
- If you feel that the actions or words of another person are disrespectful in any way, please bring it to my attention and not to the attention of the entire class.
- Electronic devices and ear phones must be put out of reach (e.g. backpack and removed from shirt/jacket/sweatshirt) while in class unless I specifically give you permission to use it during class. If you fail to follow this rule, you will be asked to hand over the device, which will be done immediately without argument.
- You are expected to participate and to do your part in group labs and activities. Refusal to participate or follow safety procedure will result in removal from activity and a zero score for that assignment.
- All safety rules are stated in the Lab Safety Contract and must be followed at all times. (You must sign and return in order to participate in labs.)
- The bell does NOT excuse you – I do. Please stay in your seat until excused.

Violations Will Result in Consequences:
1. You will receive a Verbal Warning for the first offense or failure to abide by the classroom rules.
2. If you continue to behave inappropriately, we will have a face-to-face conference
after class to discuss your behavior expectations and you will receive detention and a call home.
3. If misbehaviors persist, you will be given a referral with documentation.
4. SSO Parent Conference to discuss your behavior and set goals for improvement.
5. Consequences will depend on the severity of the offense – Behavior Plan and/or Intervention Meeting.

Keep in mind:
“Half the battle is showing up.” - Stephen Hawking.
Attendance is necessary for success! Whenever possible, please talk to me if you know you will be absent so we can make a plan to keep you from falling behind. Feel free to email me anytime.

“The important thing is to never stop questioning.” - Albert Einstein.
No question is a dumb question! So ask lots of questions. If you are unclear about something from the textbook, lab, or from discussion, ask! I am available during PASS, lunch, and after school by appointment.

“Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.” - Thomas Edison
You do not have to be a “genius” to understand and appreciate science. Yes, sometimes science can be challenging, but it’s also a lot of fun. Remember to work hard, ask questions, and most important of all, have fun with it!

“Think like a proton and stay positive.” - Unknown
A positive attitude will take you far, not only in my class, but also in life!

I _____________________________ have read the class syllabus, fully understand them and agree to abide by the rules and expectations listed above.

Student Signature
______________________________________________ Date:_______________

Parent/GuardianSignature
__________________________________________ Date:________________

Email _________________________________________ Phone#_______________