NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

North Mason High School Science Department

Course Syllabus





Matt Lonsdale

(360)277-2303

mlonsdale@northmasonschools.org

lonsdalenmhs.weebly.com

**Course Outline:**

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| **UNIT**  | **Power Standard** |
| **Unit 1: Earth Science*** Geography
* Volcanoes
* Earthquakes
* Plate Tectonics
* Earth and the Core
* Project: Tectonic Plate Presentation
 | Students learn about planet Earth as an interacting system of solids, liquids, and gases, and about the movement of crustal plates and the unifying Theory of Plate Tectonics. These major ideas about energy inputs and outputs in and around the Earth help students understand Earth as a dynamic system.  |
| **Unit 2: Astronomy** * The Solar System
* The Stars
* Exploring the Universe
* History of the Universe
 | Students learn the current scientific theory about the origin of the universe and subsequent formation of our Solar System. |

**Classroom Norms:**

1. Be courteous and **respectful** to each student, teacher, substitute, visitor, and animal. Respect the right of all students to learn and the teacher to teach.
2. Be **prepared** and on time. Be in your seat when class is scheduled to begin, and come prepared with your science notebook, textbook (when instructed to bring it to class), a pencil or pen, and paper.
3. **No food** or drink is permitted in the classroom.

**If You Break a Rule:**

1. Verbal warning
2. Parent contact
3. Detention
4. Administrative referral
5. Severe disruptions - Student sent immediately to the office. Ongoing behavior issues will earn additional administrative intervention.

**How will grades be earned in Earth/Space Science?**



**70% Assessment *of* Learning**: How much have you learned?

Tests, formal lab reports and projects will be worth a total of **70%** of your grade. Why? This Earth/Space class is based on specific state standards that all students need to know prior to graduation. Your grade will accurately reflect your understanding of these standards or what you know.

* Exams / Lab Reports / Projects 70%

**30% Assessment *for* Learning:** The Learning Process.



Daily class work, homework, quizzes and your science notebook will be worth **30%** of your grade. Why? All class work is designed to help you learn and understand specific standards in the area of Earth and Space science. The learning process requires **PRACTICE** and **REFLECTION**. Yes, quizzes are practice. Yes, you must study for them in order to cement your understanding of the required standards. **Learning requires practice!**

* Homework, Daily work, Quizzes 30%

**Grading Scale**

Grades will be posted regularly using your student number for confidentiality and can be viewed on-line. You are responsible for monitoring our success throughout the semester.

A = 93-100% B = 83-86% C = 73-76% D = 66-60%

A- = 90-92% B- = 80-82% C- = 70-72% F = 59% and below

B+ = 87-89% C+ =77-79% D+ = 67-69%



**Mr. Lonsdale’s Policies and Procedures**

1. Class Signal - “May I have your attention please”

There is one of me and roughly 30 of you! I need to be able to gain everyone’s attention in a timely manner – less than 3 seconds!



**2. Food and Drink**

Food and drink are permitted as long as the class does not leave a mess. If students leave food/garbage behind, food privileges will be revoked. **No food** or drink is permitted in the classroom.

**3. Cell phones, iPods, and personal gaming devices etc**

These items are not allowed during class time while Mr. Lonsdale is teaching. All should be turned off and put away. If I see you with a cell phone or ipod while I am lecturing I will ask you politely to put it away the first time. The second time I will take it and hold it until the end of class. The third time it will be turned into the main office. There will be occasional days during individual work time where I will allow you to listen to your music, however you must always ask me first or I will let you know when it is an appropriate time. No electronic devices will be allowed during test times.

**4. Entry Tasks – Blue Earth/Space Practice**

Every other Monday you will pick up a blue “E/S Practice” handout. When you walk into class, there will be a question posted on the screen related to material being covered that you will be expected to answer. I expect you to begin working silently on the assignment in your seat. These blue sheets are graded assignments. If you are absent, it will be your responsibility to answer the questions on your own (not copied from a classmate). The entry task questions will be placed on the chalkboard with a magnet.  **Homework will also be stamped during entry tasks.**

**5. Absences**

Class time is very important. For every day you miss, you are behind 70 minutes in my class and almost 6 hours total for your classes. It is much easier to be in class. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up the work. Do not expect me to catch you up.

*Steps to follow once you return to school after an absence:*



* All work for each day will be found in the **hand-out box** located in the back of the classroom, so be sure to check for assignments & activities **first thing** when you come back.
* Talk to your lab partner.
* Then, at the end of class or after school,make sure to ask me if there was anything else you missed or that you don’t understand and I would be happy to help you.
* ***What should you NOT do once you return to school after an absence:***Come and ask me “what did I miss” at the beginning of the period.



**6. Make-up Work**

Make-up work for **LABS** will be done after school on science help days, which will be held on Wednesdays only. The lab must be made up on the closest Wednesday to your absence. Lab materials will only be set-up for one week. For **TESTS** and **QUIZZES** they will be made up directly upon your return to school. All other assignments are due the day of the unit exam and no work for the unit will be accepted after the exam.

**7. Class Dismissal**

Mr. Lonsdale, not the clock, dismisses class. You will be dismissed only if all cleaning requirements are complete, I have stopped speaking, and you are in your assigned seat. One of my pet peeves is when students pack up while I am talking or line up at the door and wait for class to end. If you do this, you will not be dismissed.

**8. Late Work**

If you complete an assignment late, you should still turn it in for evaluation. Each assignment plays a role in your understanding of the unit.

**9. Mr. Lonsdale’s Desk**

The desk, table, and computer at the front of the room are part of “Mr. Lonsdale’s World.” Please stay away from this “world” as there are many teachers who will be sharing this classroom. We must be respectful to their belongings as well as mine.

**10. Going to the Restroom**

Class time is valuable and I expect you to go to the restroom before or after class. I understand that special circumstances do arise, and in these situations you may go to the bathroom only if you submit a hall pass. You are given 4 for the trimester and once they are gone, you will no longer be allowed to leave the classroom. These can be turned in at the end of the term for 5 pts of extra credit each.

**11. Pencil Sharpeners**

Sharpen pencils before class starts. It is ok to use the pencil sharpener if your pencil does break, however, please be respectful when deciding when a good time to sharpen your pencil is.

**12. Student Movement**

No student should be wandering around class at any time unless given instructions to do so. There will also be assigned seating and at no time is it ok to sit in a seat other than your assigned seat. If you are not in your assigned seat, you will be marked absent.

**13. Participation**

Everyone is expected to participate in class. This includes answering/attempting to answer questions, participating in labs or demos, or anything else that Mr. Lonsdale dreams up for you to participate in. Have fun and be excited to be in this class every day and learn about the world around you.

**14. Tardy Policy**

You must be in the classroom when the clock on the wall reads the start time of class time. If you are not, you will be marked tardy. Consequences will follow building policy.

* First tardy – warning
* Second tardy – notification to parent/guardian.
* Subsequence tardies – detention

**15.** **Extra Credit**

There will be no extra credit available in this class, except for the unused hall passes.

**Student and Parent Signature Form**

By signing the line below I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (student) have read and understood the classroom policies and procedures. By signing this form I am stating that I am now entering into a classroom contract and I will be expected to follow all classroom procedures and norms.

By signing the line below I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (parent/guardian) have read and understood the classroom policies and procedures. By signing this form I am stating that my son/daughter is now entering into a classroom contract and will be expected to follow all classroom procedures and norms.

Student’s signature Date

Parent/guardian’s signature Date

Please sign and return ONLY THIS PAGE to Mr. Lonsdale by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for credit.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Earth / Space Homework**

**Student Survey and Syllabus Questions**

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Please put time and effort into this assignment. Use complete sentences.

**Basic Information**

1. Do you have brothers and/or sisters? Are you the oldest, youngest, middle, etc.?

1. What language(s) do you speak at home?
2. Explain one of your favorite science experiences at any grade level and why it was a memorable experience.
3. Are there any challenges you are facing I would need to know about in order to help you succeed in this class?

**About Your Activities & Interests**

1. What hobbies or activities do you like to do in your free time?
2. What activities do you intend to participate in this year or have already participated in (may be school or non-school related)?
3. Name at least TWO things you are proud of (may be school or non-school related).
4. What TV shows and/or movies are you a fan of?
5. What bands/musicians/artists are you a fan of?
6. Do you have access to a computer with internet access at home?
7. What do you want to be/do after high school? (must be school appropriate)

**About the Way You Learn:**

1. Are you interested in science? Why or why not?
2. Is there anything that could make this class especially hard for you?
3. Think of the teacher that taught you the most. What did this teacher do that helped you learn more?
4. Is there anything else about you that you would like me to know?

**Earth / Space Syllabus Questions**

Refer to the Syllabus and Mr. Lonsdale’s Policies and Procedures to answer the following questions.

1. Which of the course units from page 1 stands out to you the most and why? Be specific. I want details!
2. Which, if any, of Mr. Lonsdale’s three classroom norms do you think you may struggle abiding by and why?
3. Explain what an entry task is. Why are they important? What happens if you are absent?
4. Explain Mr. Lonsdale’s policy on going to the restroom.
5. What is the purpose behind assigning daily assignments, quizzes, and homework?
6. If you miss class, what should you do once you return to school?
7. What is Mr. Lonsdale’s class signal? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. What are two things you will contribute to our class?
9. Develop 2 goals for yourself that you would like to accomplish during your time with me in Earth/Space Science. These will be short term goals because I only have you for 12 weeks. The following two quotes stress the importance of goals setting:
	1. If “you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.”
	**Yogi Berra**
	2. “Goals are the fuel in the furnace of achievement.” **Brian Tracy, *Eat that Frog***

Goal #1:

Goal #2: