

Open Disclosure – Dr. Niki Hack,
Salt Lake Center for Science Education
Integrated Science – 7th Grade

Course Description

The underlying theme of the 7th grade science core curriculum is structure as a concept common to life science, physical science and earth science. Topics such as the structure of matter, the composition of the earth, cell structure and function, and classification schemes will be examined.

Course Goals and Objectives

The goal of this course is to cultivate and build on students' curiosity and sense of wonder of the world. The course objectives are that students

- Use science process and thinking skills.
- Manifest science interests and attitudes.
- Understand important science concepts and principles.
- Communicate effectively using science language and reasoning.
- Demonstrate awareness of the social and historical aspects of science.
- Understand the nature of science.

Course Materials

Students are expected to bring paper, pencils, their SLCSE Planner, Science Journal and Math Toolbox to class everyday.

Format and Procedures

Students will interact with the content through reading, writing, research projects, model building, experiments, presentations, field trips and group activities. I will see your student for science every day except Wednesdays when they will have extra Math instruction. Ms. Crim and I work very closely together and integrate much of the science and math content throughout the year.

Field Trips

At SLCSE we believe that learning experiences outside of the classroom are a valuable piece of your child's education. We have two types of field trips at SLCSE: **Essential**: those that build on the curriculum being taught in the classroom and **Enrichment**: those that are not directly related to the curriculum being taught. **Only students with grades C and higher in all classes will be invited to attend the enrichment field trips**, students with lower grades will stay at school and use the opportunity to make up work.

Course Requirements

Participate: Try your hardest. Ask questions. Give and receive feedback. Stay curious and explore. Come to school every day and be on time for class. Be prepared to learn and work hard. Complete homework. Adopt a growth mindset. Support our learning community.

Homework: Weekly homework assignments will be given in class and posted to my website whenever possible (<http://my.uen.org/myuen/68870>). I will not accept late homework unless the

student is absent. Homework Hall is held after school every day and tutors are available if your need student needs assistance.

Absences: It is the student’s responsibility to ask for and make up any missed work. Students must inform Dr. Hack and Ms. Sanzenbacher about any planned extended absence. Students have two days for each day they are absent to make up work.

Grading Procedures

Mastery of science content (50%) – projects, exams

Quizzes (10%) - Quizzes

Participation (40%) –homework and class participation

Grades will be updated on the computer every two weeks and parents can access their students’ grade via the district website <https://powerschool.slcschools.org/public/home.html>. Students will also build online portfolios to illustrate their academic growth as a scientist. You will be able to access their website at <http://www.studentnamefirstinitialoflastnameslcse.weebly.com> towards the end of the first semester.

I look forward to getting to know you and your student this year. The most efficient way to contact me is by district email which I check at the end of each day. I am available on Thursdays and Fridays after school if you need to meet with me. The main form of communication will be through the SLCSE student planner so please check it each day.

Student name _____

Parent name(s)_____

Parent signature _____

Home phone _____

Work phone _____

Best time to call _____

Comments:
