



Science of the Cosmos

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on the theories and principles of Astronomy, and on the science and practices that are used to understand our observations of the universe. Emphasis will be placed on current theories and recent developments in space exploration. Questions about the stars, planets, and universe will be answered through discussion, investigation, and laboratory activities designed to give students a firsthand knowledge of, and appreciation for, the universe in which they live.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will understand:

- Why do we study the night sky?
- Over history, how have the cosmos been explained?
- How is the solar system organized?
- How do distances govern the structure of the universe?
- What is at the edge of our understanding of astronomy?
- How do students use information and technology to express and communicate ideas?

UNITS OF STUDY

- Earth's Place in the Universe
- History and Tools of Astronomy
- Our Planetary System and Laws
- Stars and Stellar Evolution

COURSE POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

GRADING (see FPS BOE [Policy 6154.1AR](#))

o Cumulative/In-Progress Grade:

10% of the grade will be based on formative assessments, homework completion, and/or behavior

90% will be based on summative assessments, of which there will be a minimum of eight for this full-year course; these may include Unit Tests, Mid-Unit Tests, Projects, Performance Tasks, Summative Quizzes, etc.

o End-of-the-Year Grade:

80% of the overall course grade will reflect the student's mastery of course content and skills during the school year through the Cumulative/In-Progress Grade

10% of the End-of-the-Year course grade will be based on the Mid-Year Assessment

10% of the End-of-the-Year course grade will be based on the Final Assessment

o Grade Reporting:

All grades will be communicated through Infinite Campus

Summative assessment results will be reported back to the student within ten school days from the date of submission or the due date

o Guidelines for Late Work:

Late work will be accepted for both summative and formative tasks within a defined timeline agreed upon between the student and the teacher

The total points may be reduced as a penalty for late work

o Reassessments:

- Any extenuating circumstances may be discussed with administration to allow alternative reassessment opportunities with administrative approval.
- Reassessment opportunities are defined as twice per year (with a maximum of one per quarter) for assignments that students met the original required deadlines and do not violate the academic integrity policy. Reassessment does not apply to midyear assessments or final assessments.
- Gradebook impact of Reassessment: original and reassessment scores will be averaged in the gradebook.

MATERIALS:

Insert Course Materials Here (ie. Textbook, Binder, Calculator, Highlighters)

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS:

EXTRA HELP:

Insert Course Expectations Here