

SPU Science

Syllabus 2025- 2026

Jolene Mallory

Room 502, extension 1502
jolene.mallory@sanpasqualunion.net

Jenny Lynch

Room 802, extension 1802
jenny.lynch@sanpasqualunion.net

Amy Cutchin

Room 803, extension 1803
amy.cutchin@sanpasqualunion.net

Supplies

Students will need one spiral notebook at least 70 pages that will be for Science only. Students should also have a space for important papers, either a binder tab or a folder. The middle school supply list for all classes can be found below. Students should carry these supplies with them every day.

- #2 pencils, sharpened
- 1 medium-sized eraser
- 1 box of colored pencils
- 1 highlighter
- 1 pair of scissors
- Glue sticks
- Ruler (with inches and centimeters)
- 3x5 index cards
- Folder/Binder/Files with 6 tabs
- Headphones/earbuds to use with Chromebooks *for school purposes only*

All students:

Please bring a water bottle labeled with your name (Glass water bottles are not allowed.)

Phones and other electronics are not allowed on campus.

Curriculum

STEMscopes allows students to engage in real-world science through hands-on, inquiry based activities that are aligned with NGSS standards. Students are expected to follow the district policies regarding computer use during instruction.



Grading Policies

Academic Grade:

The Science academic grade is based on student work and assessments. A heavier emphasis is placed on tests and quizzes as these show us what a student knows and can do independently. We value academic integrity. Copying or cheating on **any** assignment, including homework, will result in disciplinary action.

89.5%-100% A 79.5-89.4% B 69.5-79.4% C 59.5-69.4% D 0-59.4% F

Assignment Category	Weighted Percentage In Academic Grade
Assignments / Labs / Homework	50%
Quizzes	20%
Tests / CER	30%

Late assignments/absences:

Absent students have two weeks to turn in missing work and will receive full credit. Late work will be accepted for two weeks after the due date and will earn a reduced credit. It is the **students' responsibility** to find out what assignment(s) they missed while absent. Please make every effort to schedule vacations and appointments outside of the school day.

Exams:

If you score below a 70%, you may discuss with your teacher whether a retake or additional work is available. You must reach out to your teacher within a week.

Corrections/Feedback:

I will work hard to give you lots of feedback and opportunities to redo your work. Be sure to take advantage of these to advance your understanding and your grades.

Citizenship Grade:

A Citizenship Grade reflects a student's promptness, attitude, effort, and behavior in class over the course of the trimester. At SPU, "Saints SOAR!" They are Safe, On-task, Accepting, and Respectful.

Our classrooms will support learning through a positive approach to classroom management that values group work, perseverance, and emotional and physical safety. General expectations include following school rules, being respectful, being responsible, and contributing to the learning environment. Rewards and consequences will be assigned as appropriate.

Outstanding (O): shows outstanding behavior at all times

Satisfactory (S): shows acceptable behavior for a learning environment

Needs Improvement (N): shows behavior that needs improvement

Unsatisfactory (U): shows behavior that is unsatisfactory in a learning environment

Overview of Science Topics

We use the NGSS integrated middle school approach, which allows students in grades 6-8 explore a range of science topics, building on their elementary school foundation and deepening their understanding of life, earth, and physical sciences. They develop scientific and engineering practices like modeling, data analysis, and constructing explanations, while also applying crosscutting concepts to connect different areas of science.

Grade 6: Focuses on foundational concepts in life science (e.g., cells, ecosystems) and earth science (e.g., water cycle, weather patterns). Students also begin to explore physical science topics like motion and forces.

Grade 7: Expands on life science, including heredity and biological evolution, and continues to build understanding of earth science through topics like plate tectonics and space science.

Grade 8: Delves deeper into physical science, including matter, energy, and chemical reactions, while also exploring more advanced concepts in earth and space science like the solar system and the universe.

Overall, the integrated approach in middle school aims to show students how different science disciplines are interconnected and how scientific knowledge can be applied to real-world problems and engineering solutions.

I have read and understand the course syllabus.

Parent/Guardian(s) Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Cohort: _____

Student Signature: _____