



# Northmont High School

## Geology Syllabus

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### Course Information

Grade level: 11-12 Length: Yearlong course  
Credit: 1 credit NCAA Approved: Physical science credit

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### Teacher Contact Information

Please refer to this information any time that you have a question or concern that you need answered. Email is the most effective way to initiate contact.

Mr. Aron Zender  
Email: [azender@northmontschools.net](mailto:azender@northmontschools.net)

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### Course Description

**Introduction:** This is a one year course designed to introduce students to the study of the Earth. The study of the Earth includes many sciences such as Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography and Astronomy. Being observant of the world around you will benefit you greatly in this course. Watch out the window when riding in a car, listen to the weather forecast and look up at the night sky. This course will help you better understand some of the natural phenomena you observe.

**Course Outline:** Throughout the school year, we will examine the following topics: Models of Earth, Earth's Matter (Rocks & Minerals), Dynamic Earth (Earthquakes & Volcanoes), Earth's Changing Surface, Atmosphere & Weather, Oceans, Astronomy & Earth's History.

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### Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

During the course of the school year we will explore three main areas of the earth: geology, meteorology & astronomy. The goal is for the student to achieve a better understanding of the interactions that occur on the planet, as well as interactions between the planet and space, and then apply what we have learned to problems that we face today.

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### Required Textbook and Materials

\*\**Earth Science: Geology, the Environment, and the Universe*. New York: The McGraw Hill Companies, Inc, 2017.

- **Students will be able to access their online version of the book.**

It is expected that a writing utensil (pencil is preferred, but not necessary) and a notebook will be brought to class every day.

## **Suggested Course Materials**

A three-ring binder is *recommended* so that the student can keep all pertinent materials in order to stay organized and for easy access when it comes to preparing for quizzes and tests. A Geology folder will be helpful to keep materials in the classroom once a unit has been completed. This is to help students prepare for the midterm and final exams.

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## **Assignments & Academic Calendar**

All assignments (homework, tests, projects, etc) are posted on Canvas and can be accessed from my website: [zengeology.weebly.com](http://zengeology.weebly.com). If a student is absent, you can check Canvas for assignments and materials.

We will cover the following topics over the given period time:

Geology (27 weeks)  
Astronomy (2 weeks)  
Meteorology (7 weeks)

***These descriptions and timelines are subject to change!***

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## **Grading Guidelines**

***Demonstrating Knowledge and Skills (Focus on Quality & Mastery, NOT just completion)***

- *Tests*
- *Quizzes*
- *Projects*
- *Writing Assignments*
- *Labs*

***Building Knowledge and Skills (Explicit Feedback for Learner is Required)***

*Homework, Classwork, and Class Participation/Engagement*

### **Grade Scale**

**100-90** A 4pts

**89-80** B 3pts

**79-70** C 2pts

**69-60** D 1pts

**59** F 0pts

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## **Late Work**

\*Demonstrating Knowledge and Skills (see above)

-Students who are absent for a test, quiz, performance, or project will make-up the assessment in an interval equal to the absence.

**\*Building Knowledge and Skills (Classwork, Homework, and Participation/Engagement)**

- Students will be given reasonable amount of time and opportunity to complete homework and classwork.
  - Assignments not completed within 2 student contact days of the due date will be converted to a zero. After the deadline, a 50% penalty applies unless there are extenuating circumstances.
  - Some assignments may not apply. (i.e., classwork grade assigned when student is absent)
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**Technology**

Technology is ever increasing throughout society. Certain projects will require students to complete research using the Internet as a resource. Also, some projects will require the use of technology.

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**Student Conduct & Discipline**

Students will have to act by one rule: WORK HARD – PLAY NICE. This is an all-encompassing rule, but it sums up expectations nicely. Some of the expectations that fall under this guideline are listed below:

- Be respectful of yourself, classmates, and teachers.
- Be on time to class. Use the bathroom/water fountain before or after class.
- Have assignments ready when they are due.
- Be prepared for class. Have a writing utensil, paper/notebook, and your textbook EVERYDAY!!
- Take responsibility!! Your actions are your actions, not your peers. It's okay to make a mistake, but you must own up to the fact that you made the decision, and then be prepared to accept the consequences.
- Cheating is not acceptable and will result in a zero for that assignment, and any necessary discipline actions set forth by school policy. Please see the student handbook for further information.