

Astronomy

Coach Faulkner

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Welcome to Astronomy

In Astronomy, students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study the following topics: astronomy in civilization, patterns and objects in the sky, our place in space, the moon, reasons for the seasons, planets, the sun, stars, galaxies, cosmology, and space exploration. Students who successfully complete Astronomy will acquire knowledge within a conceptual framework, conduct observations of the sky, work collaboratively, and develop critical-thinking skills. (Texas Education Agency)

As your teacher I have certain responsibilities and goals, which I am expected to fulfill. My primary objective is to instill a desire to learn. Other goals include:

- To teach essential skills as dictated by the district and state.
- To convey the importance and relevancy of astronomy and physics
- To create an environment of respect and learning within my classroom
- To offer a variety of evaluation forms which compliment various learning styles.

Student Responsibilities:

We will be following all rules and expectations as outlined in the Lake Ridge Student Handbook. However, I will be more specific to certain expectations and procedures in my classroom.

1. Come to class *ready to work*.
2. Follow directions first time given.
3. Be respectful to property, others, and yourself.
4. Always do you best, NEVER MAKE EXCUSES.

Consequences:

1. Verbal warning/Removal from classroom
2. Referral to office

Tardies: If you are not *through the door* when the bell starts ringing, you will go to tardy table to get a pass.

Other:

Only sealable water bottles are allowed in the classroom. All other containers will be thrown away, regardless of what is in them.

Cell phones and other electronic devices will be subject to 'power down' times. I expect you to use them appropriately.

Get your school ID and keep it on you. I will have you check out items such as calculators and hall passes with this.

Backpacks and purses stay off the desks.

Course Outline:

- Six Weeks 1: Charting the Heavens, Copernican Revolution
- Six Weeks 2 : Spectroscopy, Telescopes, Solar System
- Six Weeks 3: Earth, Inner Planets, Outer Planets
- Six Weeks 4: Dwarf Planets, Solar System Debris, Interstellar objects, Sun & Stars
- Six Weeks 5: Stars, Milky Way, Galaxies, Dark Matter
- Six Weeks 6: Cosmology, Universe, Life In the Universe

Grading Policy:

Tests	50%
Labs	30%
Daily Work/quizzes	20%

Examinations: All students must turn in a signed syllabus to participate in laboratory activities. Upon completion of each topic a test will be given. Quizzes and daily assignments will be given as needed. Test will include essays. There will be a midterm and final exam.

A retest is offered with all tests. All retests must be completed by the end of the 5th week of the six weeks. Additionally all students must complete a mandatory remediation and schedule the retest with your teacher. There will only be one retest opportunity per major assessment. The maximum grade allowed on the retest is a 70. There are no retakes for final exams.

Work Habits: All writing must be legible. Any assignment not designated as partner work may not be identical to any other person or book. Copied work will receive no credit. Students are responsible for the notes for each unit. ***There will also be night lab requirements for this class.***

Extra credit: Extra credit assignments may be given at the discretion of Coach Faulkner, and will be offered to the entire class. **Extra credit will not be given to an individual student to raise their grade at the end of a nine-week grading period.**

Make up work: Each student will be responsible for his or her own work when he or she is absent. Please check school web and class partners before coming to ask what you missed.

Late work: Late work will be accepted according to the LRHS Student Handbook at a rate of 30 points per class day for 1 day ONLY (i.e. A-Day to A-Day). After that NO late work will be accepted. (This policy is separate from the policy on work missed or late due to absence.)

Substitute Teacher Policy: My duties require me to be out of the classroom periodically. Subs have a very challenging job continuing the learning standards of the classroom. Therefore, I do not tolerate any misbehavior for a sub. If a student's name is taken for misbehavior or disrespect, I will write a referral upon return if the sub hasn't already.

Supplies:

<u>Spiral Notebook</u>	Markers	Glue Sticks	Map Pencils
Pencils, pens	Kleenex	Scotch Tape Refills	Colored Paper

Contact Info:

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