

**SCIENCE 8**  
**-- INTEGRATED EARTH SCIENCE --**  
**SYLLABUS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009**

**I. Basic Information**

Course title: Science-8, general  
Teacher: Dr. Ed Guidry

**II. Required Texts/Materials**

Textbook: Science Explorer, Grade 8 by M. Padilla, et al. 2002. Prentice-Hall.  
Other Materials: Lightweight 3-brad folder, with pockets

**III. Course Description**

Science-8 integrates introductory physics and chemistry with astronomy, biology, and particularly earth science -- mainly geology, oceanography, and meteorology. CScope Curriculum is closely followed in scope, sequence and pace, and is strongly augmented by corresponding sections within the textbook.

**IV. Course Objectives**

Integrated Earth Science-8 is preparatory to high school science courses, primarily biology, chemistry, and physics. It has high expectations concerning class participation, range and depth of material covered, additional written work assignments, and chapter tests. Textbook and course correlation, as designated by CScope Curriculum, thoroughly review TEKS -- Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills -- assuring adherence to state guidelines in preparation for end-of-year science-8 TAKS testing.

**V. Teaching Methods**

Course material usually is covered in at least three ways. It is first introduced as a class lecture, then reinforced by required reading and written exercises (class work and homework), and finally reviewed through class discussion, and by correcting written work as a class exercise. Additional reinforcement might include videos, demonstrations, library and computer research, and special projects. Laboratory activities are frequently done, as well.

**VI. Course Requirements**

Students are required to participate with courtesy and respect in class activities: written assignments, discussions, and computer and laboratory work. Students must maintain all written work -- class and homework, library and computer research, and lab reports -- for each chapter throughout its grading period. Chapter assignments are checked daily, and then turned in cumulatively (work folder) for additional teacher review and an overall average the day after the chapter test.

Optional extra credit projects are offered following each chapter test.

**VII. Grading Policy**

For each six-week grading period, chapter and unit tests, major labs, and certain projects are together counted 60% of the overall grade. All else, predominantly the work folder, is counted 40%.

Late work will be conditionally accepted in accordance with school policies for timely make-up and submission.

# **Expected Behavior in Dr. Guidry's Science Class...**

## **How to Act:**

**Always be courteous, attentive, and careful.**

### **Courteous:**

To be courteous is to be polite.

During classroom discussion, when the teacher or another student is speaking, you should quietly listen, and not interrupt. Wait your turn to speak, and always raise your hand and wait patiently to be called on.

Courtesy includes friendship. It is the effort you make to be nice to others. Usually they will return your friendship.

### **Attentive:**

To be attentive means to quietly listen.

Attention in class means being alert and focused on the assigned lesson or instruction, and to be a part of it. The way you sit often shows how attentive you are. Sitting upright with head up (and not rested on the desktop) is required at all times.

Being attentive also includes not being distracting, by word or action.

### **Careful:**

To be careful simply means to always follow rules of the classroom, especially rules for doing a safe and proper lab. Never damage school or private property, or endanger anyone.

### **Discipline Plane:**

Discourteous, inattentive, or careless behavior will result in increasing consequences...

1. Immediate correction, with private conversation or conference to follow, as needed.
2. Seating changed as necessary; parents notified.
3. Lunch or other detention/s.
4. Office referral.

Misbehavior during lab will result in certain removal from the activity and a zero grade.

Model behavior will result in rewards...

1. Verbal recognition and praise.
2. Permission to free-read, or to use the computer room.

Severe clause...

1. Fighting, inappropriate language or gestures, blatant disrespect or defiance, endangering self or others, or any behavior deemed decidedly inappropriate or unacceptable can result in immediate removal from class and referral to school administrators.
2. Administrators will apply appropriate measures in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct as given in the student/parent handbook.

**Working together with courtesy, attentiveness, and care will make our year safe and successful...and enjoyable.**

**Science-8, 2008-2009  
Dr. Guidry, room 174**

**This acknowledgment is to be signed and returned to Dr. Guidry at once.**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_**

**I, \_\_\_\_\_, the  
parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_,  
have read the syllabus and expected behavior plan for Dr. Guidry's  
2008-2009 science-8 class, with all parts of the included discipline  
plan, and have become completely familiar with their contents.**

**Thank you for your assistance.**

## 8th GRADE SCIENCE, 2008-2009

DR. GUIDRY, ROOM 174

### Written Work -- How to Do It, Keep It, and Turn It In... Do It...

1) Written assignments are to be done in ink. Calculations and drawings can be done in pencil. General policies regarding assignment format (such as specific procedure for correct heading or title) will follow school guidelines, primarily in English class.

2) All current chapter assignments are required in class every day.

### Keep it...

3) All written work will be kept in your **3-ring binder** and submitted for final review in a **3-brad folder**, preferably one with pockets.

4) Written assignments -- including class work, homework, lab reports, and special assignments -- will be checked the next day, at the beginning of the class period, unless otherwise stated. Late work will **not be given full credit**, but still must be completed.

### Turn it in...

5) The first page of the **folder** is a cover sheet. The cover sheet will list all folder contents with each assignment grade, as they are added. When the chapter has been finished, the cover sheet will also show your final grade average for all chapter assignments. Old cover sheets, those from past chapters, should always be kept in your binder, as a grade record.

6) Assignments will be organized below the cover sheet according to **date of assignment**, with the earliest (first given) on top.

7) All chapter assignments -- homework, class work, lab work, pop tests, and any special assignments -- will be submitted in your **folder** for final review on the **first class day** following the chapter test.

8) Conditionally, a late folder might be accepted **no later than one day** after the due date, and will receive a grade of 70% of the folder percentage grade, not to exceed 70%.

9) Submission of **late work due to absence** is as follows:

Daily work submitted for an **excused absence** must be timely -- two days make-up are allowed for each day out, with a maximum deadline for extended absences to be determined at that time by the teacher.

For **unexcused absence**, a grade ceiling will be provided for the various assignments, but usually it will not exceed 70% the first day late, 50% the second day late, and zero after that time, as can be modified by school-set guidelines.

